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THE  TIMES

No 61,799 FRIDAY APRIL 6 1984 20p

THE TIMES

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Mr Pierre Trudeau, the Canadian Prime Minister, and his wife Margaret were formally divorced after six years of separation.

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Scargill's strategy suffers blow in steel and pit votes

● *Union delegates representing more than* 30,000 Nottinghamshire miners rejected by *nearly three to one* the area executives call for pitmen not to cross picket lines.

● *Leaders of the Steelmens' Union voted* not to join the blockade of coal supplies agreed by transport, shipping and rail union leaders.

● *An emergency Commons debate on* police action during the miners' dispute will almost certainly be held next Tuesday.

● Despite growing coal board optimism that a solution to the pit strike might be in *sight two fewer mines were in production* yesterday Leading article, page 13

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

The miners' strike began to lose its cutting edge yesterday when the steel workers voted to abandon their industrial allies and Nottinghamshire pitmen decided to continue working *normally*.

Mr Ian MacGregor, chairman *of the National Coal Board*, urged in a widely syndicated *newspaper feature that workers* in other industries should respect the "*democratically* taken decision of those miners who have voted to continue working".

His argument was swiftly echoed in a vote by the national executive of the Iron and Steel Trades Confederation to stand aloof from the blockade of coal supplies agreed last week by leaders of the transport, shipping and rail unions. The steel men fear further closures in their industry if coking coal supplies are cut off.

In the Nottinghamshire coalfield, delegates of the National Union of Mineworkers rejected by nearly three to one an area executive recommendation not to cross picket lines, which would have drawn 34,000 men at 25 pits into the "rolling strike", now nearing the end of its fourth week.

Coal board managers privately expressed guarded optimism last *night that* the bitter mining dispute was finally going their way. Attention is fixed on next week's critical meeting of the miner's union executive in Sheffield, at which union moderates will press for a *national ballot of the men*.

The board said in a special edition of its *Coal News* journal circulated to 180,000 miners *that at least 13 of the 24* members of the union executive *are for a secret pithead poll*. "That is the only way to end the present bitterness between areas of the union and conflict between groups of the union's members."

But despite the board's growing optimism that a solution to the dispute might be at hand, the number of pits working normally fell yesterday and there were more arrests on the picket lines.

Only 40 mines out of 176 were producing coal as usual on the night shift, a reduction of two on the previous day. There were arrests at a number of sites, including 39 in clashes between pickets and police at Port Talbot steelworks in South Wales.

A meeting of unions involved in the projected blockade of coal movements broke up yesterday without a formal statement, and transport workers' leaders are to hold further talks in an effort to make their sympathetic industrial action stick.

In *Nottinghamshire*, however, train drivers are expected to defy instructions from the rail unions, the National Union of Railways and the Associated Society of Locomotive Engineers and Fireman, to "black" coal movements after the 186-72 vote by miners' union area delegates not to cross their own picket lines. Their lead may be taken up in other areas such as Lancashire, where the rail union boycott has been implemented.

The Nottinghamshire conference vote was not unexpected, but that decision and the steel confederation's refusal to take action in support of the striking miners is expected to raise moderates hopes of an early ballot that could lead to a "no" vote on industrial action.

The coordinating committee of transport unions set up last week to halt the movement of coal into and around the country could be the next victim of diminshed enthusiasm for the miners' cause.

The committee met for an hour yesterday at the offices of the National Union of Seamen in London, but union leaders declined to give details of its deliberations.

Commons set for pit debate

By Julian Hailand, Political Correspondent

The emergency Commons *debate on the policing of* coalfields during the miners' dispute, *for which* Labour MPs have been pressing since last week, will *almost certainly* take place on Tuesday.

Mr Neil Kinnock, leader of the Opposition, said yesterday that concern about infringements of civil liberties (by the police) continued, and if there was "no significant improvement" Mr Gerald Kaufman, Labour's senior home affairs spokesman, would apply on Monday for a three-hour debate the following day.

It would then be for the Speaker, Mr Bernard Weatherill, to decide whether the matter was "proper to be discussd" Mr Weatherill has already indicated his willingness *to allow a debate* when *he* thinks the time is ripe.

Mr Kinnock's words prevented a renewed outbreak of indignation by Labour members representing mining areas, who had for three days pressed Mr Weatherill in vain to allow a debate. Their impatience had been fuelled by Mr Kinnock's *earlier refusal to use Opposition* time to initiate a debate, for fear *that any attack might recoil on* Labour.

There is still some nervousness on that score, but by yesterday it was clear to the Labour leadership that pressure for a debate could not prudently be resisted any longer.

The emergency procedure gives Mr Kaufman an outside chance of concentrating attention on the police; but with the *mineworkers national executive* due to meet 48 hours later, *Conservative backbenchers* will try to bring in the wider *question of the right to work*.

The Labour Party's complaints are likely to be full-blooded. Mr Kaufman and his colleagues now have what they describe as a substantial dossier *of complaints about police* behaviour.

Mr Kinnock's view is that the intensity of police activity is unprecedented and worrying, and that it is wrong for someone seeking to join a peaceful picket line to be treated as if he is breaching the peace.



Damp start: Prince Andrew steps ashore on St Helena, accompanied by Mr John *Massingham, the island's Governor.*

Big splash to welcome the Prince

By Alan Hamilton

Mr John Massingham, Governor of the remote Crown Colony of St Helena, resplendent in white dress uniforms and pith helmet, yesterday welcomed Prince Andrew ashore for the island's 150th anniversary celebrations by falling in the water up to his knees.

Mr Massingham missed his footing as he stepped ashore from a launch bearing himself and the royal visitor through the pitching South Atlantic *swell. Prince Andrew, who* followed him, took the precaution of clinging to a rope as he set foot on the island which has no proper harbour.

The incident set a suitably *relaxed tone* for the first royal visit to one of Britain's most *remote possessions* since the Duke of Edinburgh landed fleetingly in 1957. Most of the island's 5,100 population packed the tiny capital of Jamestown to welcome Prince Andrew, undertaking his first official overseas visit, with a song: "Feel free, have fun, join in with everyone".

It was the second occasion that the Governor has fallen into the water. On the first occasion at Ascension Island while climbing on board a vessel to St Helena, he was drenched up to the knees causing one naval officer to quip: "The blighter thinks he can walk on water".

The Prince arrived on board the survey vessel HMS Herald after a three-day voyage from Ascension Island. Among local dignitaries introduced to him were *M Gilbert Martineau*, the French consul who runs Longwood House where Napoleon lived in exile, and Mr Charles *Statson Wade*, aged 77, who skippered the launch which brought King George VI ashore in 1947.

Observers believe that the traditional peace of the tiny island has been disturbed by the large numbers of St Helenian men who now work in Ascension Island, which assumed vital importance as the staging post for the Falklands airbridge.

The Foreign Office refused to comment yesterday on reports that Mr Massingham is expected to leave the island in *June, well before his term of* office, is up, to take up a new diplomatic post in West Africa.

Solitary prisoner, page 8

Whitehall hit over Grenada invasion

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

The Government was strongly criticized yesterday for adopting a lethargic approach in the days preceding the invasion of Grenada last October by the United States and Caribbean countries.

The Commons Foreign Affairs Committee also concluded, after a detailed investigation into the Grenada crisis, that President Reagan had deliberately kept Britain in the dark about his intentions to take military action.

Acknowledging that Britain *had voiced doubts to the* Americans on October 21 about *any invasion, the all-pparty* committee concluded that those *wishing to pursue military* action may well have predicted Britain's likely reaction and adjusted the information given to the British Government accordingly "We have reason to believe that was the case."

The Conservative-dominated committee, however, criticized the Government for failing to take any initiative during the weekend of October 22 to ascertain the full intentions of Caribbean leaders or to seek to disuade them, even though it had been told that some countries intended to launch an invasion in cooperation with friendly states. The Government "reacted passively" to events unfolding in the Caribbean.

The Government will have to make a full reply

Although the committee, in its report did not pass judgment the invasion, its minutes disclosed that it had split on party lines over an attempt by Labour members to condemnd the intervention.

An amendment moved by Mr Dennis Canavan, Labour MP for Falkirk, deploring the invasion and supporting Britain's non-participation, was lost only on the casting vote of the committee chairman, Sir Anthony Kershaw.

Mr Dennis Healey, Labour's spokesman on foreign affairs, said last night: "They can now be no quetion but the Foreign Secretary was guilty of a gross dereliction of duty in failing personally to take control of a crisis which he should have known was about to burst and that the lack of candour shown by the American President amounted to deceit of a favourite ally.

Mr Peter Thomas, Conservative MP for Hendon South, who led the committee delegation to the Caribbean, told a Westminster press conference that the Americans refused to consult because they realized Britain was not in a position to take part in what was a quick military adventure. Britain might also have argued against it.

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Callaghan not told of guns purchase

By Anthony Bevins
Political Correspondent

The Prime Minister told an astonished Mr James Callaghan yesterday *that the* decision to allow the Metropolitan Police to *buy sub-machine guns* had first been taken by his own administration *in 1976.*

But after a two-hour investigation, Mr Callaghan told journalists that Sir Robert Armstrong, Secretary to the Cabinet, had told him that the decision had not been referred to a Cabinet committee, the Cabinet or the Prime Minister of the day.

Mr Roy Jenkins, who was Hone Secretary in August, 1976, when the decision was taken, issued a statement later yesterday saying that he had, indeed, authorized purchase of "a limited number of such weapons to be held against the need for use in terrorist situations".

He said the decision had been taken in the light of the sieges at Balcombe Street and Spaghetti House, and their use had not been authorized for protection duties.

Mr Callaghan said he had asked for Cabinet papers on the decision, but Sir Robert had told him that there were no such papers. "The decision had been taken by a Home Office Minister, he said, and one R. Armstrong. That's what he said to me."

Sir Robert was a Deputy Under-Secretary at the Home Office in August 1976.

Mr Callaghan, who had intervened in Prime Minister's Question Time in the Commons, had asked Mrs Thatcher whether it would not be better to use Servicemen, rather than police with sub-machine guns, to meet a short-term terrorist threat. He feared the risk to the traditional character and image of the police service.

But the former Prime Minister, himself a former Home Secretary and, before that, Commons spokesman for the Police Federation, was clearly taken aback by Mrs Thatcher's reply.

She told him: "'It is within public knowledge that as long ago as 1976 the then Labour *administration approved* the acquisition by the Metropolitan Police of a small number of conventional sub-machine guns, for possible use in a terrorist emergency, which I am sure the then Home Secretary had very much in mind."

Mr Callaghan told the House that he would want to see the relevant papers so that he could see whether the mistake had been his or that of Mr Jenkins. He then said that whatever the previous circumstances, serious consideration should be given to the present situation.

Mr Callaghn immediately left the chamber and saw a "flustered" Mr Robin Butler, principal private secretary to the *Prime Minister*, to ask for the papers. That was at 3.40.

Continued on back page, col 2

BBC faces more TV disruption

By David Hewson

The television union which blacked out BBC 1 yesterday meets today to plan its next move amid signs that the dispute is worsening.

Union officials deplored a statement by Mr Bill Cotton, managing director of BBC Television, who decided to close the station in the face of the 24-hour strike, in which he ruled out arbitration over the heart of the dispute.

He said that the issue which led to 595 striking scenery worker being *dismissed could* not be negotiated or sent to *arbitration because it concerned* "work practices which are no longer appropriate or generally acceptable anywhere".

Unless there is a change of heart on either side, it now seems certain that today's meeting of officials of the Entertainments Trades' Alliance will examine ways of escalating the action.

MI5 officer to face 10 secrets charges

By Stewart Tendler, Crime Reporter

Ten espionage charge based on the Official Secrets Acts will be put to Mr Michael Bettaney, the MI5 officer arrested last year, when his trial begins at the Central Criminal Court next week.

Mr Bettaney, aged 34, of Coulsdon, Surrey, was arrested last September and committed *for trial* in December on six charges. Since then, the indictment has been revised for a trial which will be held almost *entirely in camera.*

As a result of the changes Mr Bettaney faces six charges under Section One of the 1911 Act. These allege that he passed information to a Soviet official on April 3 and June 12 last year; that he recorded information useful to an enemy on September 7 and 12 and between September 6 and 16; and that he collected information useful to an enemy between December 21, 1982 and September 16 last year.

Mr Bettaney, a middle-ranking *officer faces four charges* relating to acts preparatory to *communicating information*. Two of these allege that on April 3 and June 12 last year he delivered letters to a Soviet *official setting out precise* arrangements for communicating classified *information by the* use of "dead letter boxes".

He is also alleged to have delivered a letter to a Soviet official on July 10 lat year offering his services in supplying classfied information and to have collected biographical details of Soviet officils in Vienna between April 3 and September 16 preparatory to communicating information.

Continued on back page, col 1

Thatcher cannot meet Mitterrand

By Rodney Cowton

An extraordinary situation developed yesterday with Mrs Thatcher indicating that her commitments prevented her from seeing President Mitterrand *of France* when he visits Britain on Monday.

M Mitterrand, *as president of* the European Community, has *a long-standing commitment* to come to Britain for the formal inauguration by the Queen of the joint European Jet project at Culham in Oxfordshire.

At a press conference on Wednesday he said that he hoped to use his visit to try to resolve Britain's budget dispute with the other members of the Community. The £175m jet project is the biggest element in a programme to prove the feasibility of using nuclear fusion to provide a long-term source of energy.

However, a spokesman for Mrs Thatcher said that her diary for Monday was already full, and she would not be able to see the President. The Government will be represented at the Culham ceremony by Mr Peter Walker, Secretary of State for Energy.

It is remarkable that President Mitterrand *should* have publicly suggested broadening the purpose of his visit apparently without arrangements having been made privately first.

It is possible that the inflexibility in Mrs Thatcher's diary arises from a preference for seeing the budget problem pursued at the level of foreign ministers at this stage.

As it happens, the community's foreign ministers, including Sir Geoffrey Howe, Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, will be meeting in Luxembourg on Monday and Tuesday in a further effort to reach agreement.

Popping across the Atlantic for £99

By Michael Horsnell

The new Virgin Atlatic Airline, owned by *the millionaire* entrepreneur Mr Richard *Branson, yesterday won* a licence to fly passengers from *Gatwick to New York for* a single fare of £99.

Amid indications that the scheme would start the biggest Atlantic price war in aviation history, the eccentric head of Virgin Records marched into a London press conference inn leather flying jacket, helmet and goggles like a prototype Biggles to the tune *Come Fly With Me*, to announce that the inaugural flight will be in June 14.

The pop art motif which will *decorate* the tail plane of the single aircraft airline shows a *punk decorator*, with a casette player hanging on for dear life to a *mid-air* cradle, painting the Virgin sign.

***Passengers opting for* Virgin Atlantic, the latest off-shoot of *Mr Branson's £150m* a year turnover empire which boasts**



Mr Branson: "come fly with me"

Boy George among its *musical* stars, will be treated to new dimensions in in-flight entertainment.

The airline has been granted a licence by the Civil Aviation Authority, inspite of an objection from British Caledonian, and though it still has to obtain an air operators certificate from the CAA approving its technical and mannagement structure, and American approval, these are regarded as formalities.

The introductory £99 fare will be availabel until *June 30*. From July 1 to September 15 the fare will be £119 with £10 weekend surchages and thereafter £110 with no weekend surcharges. The Boeing 747-100 series aircraft, the interior of which is being refurbished, will fly from Gatwick to Newark, New Jersey.

The 465-test aircraft, a *transport of delight with an* advanced video system and a varied selection of popular music, is to be purchased by a British *bank and leased to* Virgin Atlantic, which is looking for a 70 per cent seat take-up rate to break even.

The CAA described the new airline's application as "a risky venture" in a difficult market, but Mr Branson aged 33, who has volunteered unlimited guarantees, said yesterday that no one succeeds in walking life's tortuous path without taking risks.

Virin Atlantic, which will take the same route flown by the American-owned budget-fares airline People *Express*, is negotiating with other American airlines to link into their services.

British Caledonian said its planned service next year would be affected by the new airline, but the CAA said it did not believe leisure passengers should be denied low fares to protect a conventional service.

Mr Branson, who was accompanied by the American lawyer Randolph Fields, who is chairman of the new airline, said: "This is all part of putting the fun back into flying. I am *very excited* and happy about the full project. We are *bringing* an Atlantic crossing within the price range of *hundreds of thousands* of passengers who could not otherwise *afford to travel on* this route."

British Caledonian said it will have to reconsider its position over plans to begin its Gatwick – New York Service next year.

Ruling later on miners' investment

Judgement was reserved in the High Court in London yesterday in the dispute between the National Union of Mineworkers and the National Coal Board trustees over how best to use investment assets of the £3,000m mineworkers' pensions scheme.

The dispute arose after the union trustees objected to further direct investments overseas or in energy interests competing with coal.

The case for the union nominees had been argued in person by the union president, Mr Arthur Scargill, after his side dispensed with its barrister. The nine-day hearing ended as it had begun, with Mr Samuel Stamler, QC, for the coal board trustees, shaking hands with Mr Scargill.

'Trance' wife acquitted

Mrs Adelaide Dalligan, aged 60, was cleared at the Central Criminal Court yesterday of murdering her husband George, aged 63, with a carving knife. During a reconstruction she "went into a trance" and told the police that she remembered a struggle with her husband, a heavy drinker who had been violent to her for nearly 40 years.

Mrs Dalligan, from Sidcup, Kent, an executive officer with the Department of the Environment, was also acquitted of manslaughter.

Threat to 2,000 meat workers

About 2,000 workers in all 10 of Northern Ireland's large meat-processing plants have received redundancy notices as fears grow that the EEC agriculture ministers' decisions last week will threaten the £300m-a-year beef industry.

Representatives of the meat industry – the biggest single producer in Northern Ireland's economy – met senior officials of the Provincial Department of Agriculture yesterday to discuss the problem.

TV project on the environment

Central Television yesterday joined the United Nations Environment Programme to co-sponsor a non-profit making trust to help to make television programmes about environmental issues.

The first documentary will be the problems of encroaching deserts, shot in Ethiopia and Australia. The trust's council includes David Attenborough and Thor Heyerdahl.

Former solicitor jailed for theft

Geoffrey Black, a former partner in the Liverpool solicitors' firm, Black Davidson, was jailed for 15 months by Liverpool Crown Court yesterday for stealing £35,000 from clients' accounts.

Black, aged 39, of Woolton, Liverpool, who has been struck off as a solicitor, admitted five specimen theft charges. The court was told that Black and his father had repaid £50,000 to cover the deficiencies.

TB outbreak traced to adult

Nine children are being treated for tuberculosis after an outbeak of the disease at a playgroup in north Devon. Dr Michael George, of the North Devon District Hospital, said yesterday the outbreak had been traced to an adult.

Most of the children who have been diagnosed as suffering from pulmonary TB went to the playgroup at Holsworthy, near Bude, but some are friends or relations.

Teachers' union to strike as pay arbitration is refused

By Lucy Hodges, Education Correspondent

Teachers in England and Wales belonging to the second largest teachers' union, the National Association of Schoolmaster/Union of Women Teachers, will hold a half-day national strike next Wednesday, during the last week of term, after this week's breakdown of pay talks.

The association's executive, meeting in emergency session in Birmingham yesterday, agreed to instruct its 130,000 members to strike and withdraw "goodwill", midday supervision and after school meetings, in protest at the "obdurate" refusal of the management to go to arbitration.

It also voted for the national action committee to draw up plans for extended action during the summer term to be presented to the conference at Llandudno, north Wales, which begins on April 23.

Mr Nigel de Gruchy said that yesterday's meeting had been very heated and that the association had received several calls from members who wanted to interfere with examinations. "That is virtually unheard of."

That would mean teachers would not undertake marking and that strike action might even be selected for a day on which O levels were being held. "A number of our members are suggesting that we go down that road, but we are not committed to that."

Several NAS–UWT branches jumped the gun yesterday and took unilateral action to withdraw goodwill. In Bedfordshire and the Isle of Wight, members refused to do lunchtime supervision or attend out-of-hours meetings.

At his week's meeting of the Burnham committee, which negotiates teachers' pay, the management side refused to increase its offer above 3 per cent, the Government's public sector pay ceiling and refused to go to arbitration.

It is understood that they were prepared to increase the offer to 4 per cent, but only if the teachers had been prepared to accept it. They would also have agreed to go to arbitration if the teachers had modified their claim to 7.5 per cent The teachers were only prepared to reduce their 12.5 per cent claim to 10 per cent.

The union condemned yesterday the "callous attitude" of the managment in refusing a peaceful solution. "They will shed crocodile tears at the damage done to the education system but teachers offered a massive concession in proposing arbitration. "Teachers have moved a mile. Management have refused to budge an inch."

The largest teachers' union, the National Union of Teachers, which has 250,000 members, is waiting for its national conference on April 21, before deciding its action.

The National Association of Head Teachers is to decide at the weekend whether to instruct members to do nothing to interfere with the industrial action.

● An inquiry was announced yesterday into whether degree courses were approved at polytechnics and further education colleges effectively. It will be chaired by Sir Norman Lindop, a former director of the Hatfield Polytechnic and chairman of the Data Protection Committee.

Staff strike over cuts at Job centres

By David Felton Labour Correspondent

Employees at more than 100 Jobcentres walked out yesterday in protest at proposed staff cuts and there were indications that union activists intend to call lighting strikes during the next few weeks.

The worst affected area was Scotland, where 56 Jobcentres were closed by walkouts coinciding with a visit by Mr Bryan Emmett, chief executive of the Manpower Services Commission's employment division, to explain the planned reorganization.

The commission will decide this month whether to accept the proposals recommending that the number of main Jobcentres be cut from 995 to about 350 and replaced by 350 small jobshops and up to 500 jobpoints, which are likely to be in new premises such as post offices, supermarkets, banks and private employment agencies.

Mr Emmett will address centre managers and regional officials in London today and will continue a regional tour during the next week or so. An official of the Society of Civil and Public Servants said last night: "We will follow him around wherever he goes".

About 1,000 of the 8,500 Jobcentre staff participated in yesterday's protests which were said to have been spontaneous.

Mr John Clarke, the union's negotiations officer for the employment service, said: "The protest actions are designed to display our anger. We are *confident that the commission will throw out the proposals,* but if they do not, the unio will consider more serious forms of action."

New camps planned at Greenham

By Pat Healy.

The number of women at Greenham Common grew last night to more than 200 as the spate of evictions drew more sympathizers to the six peace camps still visible in protest at the presence of cruise missiles inside the base.

The growing numbers have encouraged the women to start planning the reestablishment of peace camps outside the base's remaining two gates. Like the other camps, they will be named after colours and will be known as Red and Turquoise.

A much depleted number of police officers guarded the roadworks area outside the main gates where the chief eviction took place on Wednesday. But between the temporary paling fence marking off the construction area and the perimeter fence marking off the construction area and the perimeter fence itself, peace women reestablished themselves in two camps either side of the slip road. They were evicted from there yesterday but returned later.

A third site bustled with women on the common across the road from the main gate. At each of the camps signs were displayed declaring: "Business as usual"

Newbury police officers circled the base throughout yesterday and, in what appeared to be a new policy, doused the women's camp fires.

● A cruise missile launcher was flown into Greenham Common yesterday afternoon on board an American Galaxy transport plane which landed just after 3 pm, the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament claimed. The Ministry of Defence refused to confirm or deny the claim.



The Princess of Wales, with Sir Richard Bailey, chairman of Royal Doulton, watching finishing work on the company's five bone china products during a visit to the Royal Doulton factory at Burslem, Stoke-on-Trent, yesterday.

Liner refit goes to Germany

By Tony Samstag

Another cruise liner, the P&O Sea Princess, is to undergo annual drydocking and refit at a foreign shipyard. The £750,000 contract is the third to go abroad in the past year, but the first of P&O's prestige liners to do so.

The 28,000-ton Sea Princess is to be overhauled at the end of the month by Hapag-Lloyd, of Bremerhaven, West Germany, which refitted the QE2 for Cunard last year at a cost of £2.7m.

Cunard's Countess was sent to Malta for its refit last May.

P&O said yesterday that British and Continental yards had been invited to tender, but of five British yards thought capable of handling the job only Vosper Thornycroft, in Southampton, had tendered.

In the past, the Southampton company "had an advantage because Southampton is the home port of our European-based ships", P&O said. "But this time they were not able to give us the most advantageous price, even allowing for the extra cost of taking the Sea Princess to Bremerhaven."



"Quoth the Raven, 'Nevermore.'" (Edgar Allan Poe)

County miner vote to pass pickets

From Craig Seton Mansfield

Union delegates representing more than 30,000 Nottinghamshire miners yesterday rejected by nearly three to one the area executive's call for its men not to cross picket lines amid scenes of bitterness and anger inside and outside the county's union headquarters in Mansfield.

More than 250 delegates representing the National Union of Mineworkers' branches at 25 pits met for a five-hour session and voted 186-72 against the executive's recommendation on Tuesday that, effectively, their men should join the miner's strike for the first time. While they argued most miners in the county continued working normally and all pits were reported to be producing coal.

About 350 angry pickets from pits in Nottinghamshire, Yorkshire and Northumberland picketed the meeting throughout shouting and jeering at delegates as they entered for the meeting. An equal number of police surrounded them and four arrests were made in minor scuffles.

A counter demonstration was staged by Nottinghamshire miners warning the delegates not to betray those who voted three to one against strike action in a county ballot.

Grim-faced delegates leaving the meeting were greeted with shouts of "traitors" by the pickets who had realized that the vote, as expected, had gone against their attempts to bring the traditionally moderate Nottinghamshire miners into the strike.

Delegates themselvews refused to speak to the press. Mr Henry Richardson, the ara general secretary, ho had wanted his men not to cross picket lines because other workers in other unions were supporting the miners, refused to be interviewed.

A sad and depressed Mr Ray Chadburn, the area president, said the vote reflected the miners' own ballot and meant that his members would continue working until a national ballot was held.

Mr Chadburn said it was clear most of the areas in the British coalfield were in favour of a national secret ballot and one, he thought, would be called for at next week's meeting of the miners' union national executive.

"At the end of the day we have got to get together because we are doing irreparable damage for the future", he said.

"In 34 years I have never seen anything like it. We have brother against brother, father against son, man against wife. This is happening not just in Nottinghamshire but throughout a great deal of the British coalfield".

Dublin protest to envoy

The Prime Minister of the Irish Republic called in the British Ambassador in Dublin last night to protest over allegations that Royal Ulster Constabulary special branch officers had operated south of the border.

Dr Garrett FitzGerald's coalition government was said to be extremely angry over the claim made during the trail of a police officer at Belfast Crown Court. The dispute was seen as harming Anglo-Irish relations and has erupted at a particularly delicate time, with the New Ireland Forum considering its final report.

It has also embarrassed Dr FitzGerald, who must always protect his flank from critics who claim he is being too friendly with Britain. It is the third time in four months that



Dr FitzGerald: Row an embarrassment

Dublin has protested to Britain over events in Northern Ireland. One source said: "Each thing that happens is bigger than the previous event. It compounds one thing after another. We are extremely annoyed about this. It is not just embarrassing, it is much more than that."

The latest protest comes after the end of the trial of PC John Robinson, aged 29, who was found not guilty of murdering a terrorist, in Armagh city in 1982.

During part of his evidence, which was unchallenged by the prosecution, he said that RUC officers had invented a cover-up story surrounding events leading to the killing of Seamus Grew and that this was aimed at concealing that the RUC special branch had been operating in the republic.

A week ago, Mr Alan Goodison, the British Ambassador in Dublin, was told that any activities by the RUC in the republic were unacceptable.

Coal, steel and railway unions head for clash

From Ronald Faux, Glasgow

A confrontation between steel workers at Ravenscraig in Scotland and striking miners who have cut the supply of coal to the British Steel Corporation plant there is threatened today when the triple alliance of steel, coal and rail unions meets in Edinburgh.

Strike leaders are hoping for a compromise with the steel workers that will avoid a damaging split in the alliance. But the steel workers are equally adamant that Ravenscraig is not to be sacrificed in the miners' strike.

The miners' union has ruled that one train load of coal a day from the quay at Humperston on the Clyde is enough to keep the plant in a safe condition without jeopardizing its future.

Steel workers put that minimum at two loads a day and show every sign of being prepared to cross the miners' picket lines to get the supplies through.

Mr Tom Brenan, convener of shop stewards at the plant, said yesterday that if steel supplies from Ravenscraig were cut because the plant was starved of coal then their customers would be forced to go elsewhere for their steel. If that happens Ravenscraig is dead, he said.

● Sir Terence Beckett, director general of the Confederation of British Industry, told the miners' president Mr Scargill, that British workers were not prepared to see their industries sacrifices "just to massage a frustrated political ego" (the Press Association reports).

The real price of Mr Scargill's policies was other people's jobs, Sir Terence said. He said there was little public sympathy for the miners.

Workers' shares in ports rise by 400%

By Jonathan Davis Financial Correspondent

Dockers and other workers who bought shares in Britain's largest ports business when it was privatized last year have seen their investment grow by 400 per cent in little more than a year.

The employee share scheme at Associated British Ports has been so successful that the company is giving its 8,600 employees a second offer of shares at preferential rates.

Ninety per cent of the employees received a small holding of free shares when the company was floated on the stock market in February last year.

Forty per cent also took up the chance of buying extra shares at what was effectively half the price paid by the public.

Those shares, for which they paid 56p each were worth 278p at yesterday's closing price. The only condition is that employees are not allowed to sell them until next February.

Employees buying shares at next week's market price will be given one share free for every one they buy. Mr Keith Stuart, the company chairman, said: "It would be wrong to say the scheme has turned everybody overnight from socialists to capitalists. But it has given them an awareness of what the business is, what makes it tick and the importance of profits." The company operates 19 ports, including Southampton, Hull, Immingham and Port Talbot. Its pre-tax profits last year rose from £8.9m to £14.5m and the ports handled six million tonnes more business than the previous year.

Mr Stuart gave a warning, however, that the coal dispute could damage this year's profits if it stopped coal exports to Northern Ireland and Europe for a long time.

Tempus, page 21

MSC leader may be staff chief at No 10

By Peter Hennessy

There is a possibility that Mrs Margaret Thatcher will build a new-style Prime Minister's office around the person of Mr David Young, the businessman who is chairman of the Manpower Services Commission.

If the plan, which is in its early stages, is implemented, Mr Young, aged 52, would leave the commission, be made a peer and a non-departmental Cabinet minister and serve as the Prime Minister's chief-of-staff in No 10.

His remit would be to reflect Mrs Thatcher's political will, be her progress chaser and insure that key elements in her second-term strategy were implemented.

The revival of the chief-of-staff idea, first floated when Mrs Thatcher was Leader of the Opposition in the late 1970s and again after the Falklands conflict, has been occasioned by the diminishing role of Mr David Wolfson, Mrs Thatcher's close aide and confidant in No 10. At his request he is working only one day a week in Downing Street.

Mrs Thatcher has a high regard for Mr Young and wants him to remain in government service after his spell at the commission. She is keen to replace Mr Wolfson and is prepared to risk the odium of ministerial colleagues and the opposition claiming she is establishing a *personal* presidential style of government and turning No 10 into a virtual Prime Minister's department.

Political sources were encouraging the idea that such a step would be an inevitable and desirable development given the growing demand on prime ministers in recent years.

Mr Young was described by an admirer as "rich, emolient, knows his own mind – he is quite capable of making it an important job."

MPs to investigate use of lie-detector

By Richard Evans

The use of the polygraph is to be investigated by the Commons Select Committee on Employment.

The committee is likely to request an interview with GCHQ employees at Cheltenham, where the lie detector went into use this week on the recommendation of the security commission which investigated the Prime spy case.

Members of the security commmission will also be invited to give evidence.

The select committee, which produced a critical report in February on the Government's decision to ban unions at GCHQ, will look in particular at the polygraph's implication on industrial relations and employment.

Mr Greville Janner, Labour MP for Leicester, West, recommended the topic, but it was unnanimously agreed by his six Conservative and four Labour colleagues.

Mr John Gorst, Conservative MP for Hendon, North and a senior committee member, said last night that he was concerned by expert claims about the machine's inaccuracy.

"I think that the interference of machinery in the daily lives of people is a threat not just to their rights as human beings or their dignity, but also a form of intrusion into their privacy."

Mr Gorst wanted the committee to examine the rights Parliament believed should exist for a person to decline to submit toa lie detector test, including employees at GCHQ.

"If it were generally accepted at GCHQ it sets a precedent which could be followed. This is the stage at which Parliament should be taking an interest before we are presented with a fait accompli".

Mr Ron Leighton, Labour MP for Newham North-east, and committee chairman, said: "We want to know if there is any intention to spread its use into other parts of the public service or the private sector".

● The Council of Civil Service Unions has reaffirmed its opposition to the polygraph (Peter Hennessy writes).

In a letter to Sir Robert Armstrong, Cabinet Secretary, the council also says that many GCHQ staff have refused to surrender their trade union rights.

It says that Civil Service security procedures generally are a matter for national, not local, negotiations and that the polygraph project at Cheltenham "may well be a precursor to its more general application."

GCHQ suicide question

By Richard Dowden

The identity of the employee of the Government Communications Headquarters alleged yesterday to have committed suicide recently remains a secret, but trade union leaders blamed government pressure for the death.

Yesterday, Mr Simon Hughes, Liberal MP for Southwark and Bermondsey, asked Mrs Thatcher in the Commons if she was aware of the suicide and to confirm "that there is a suicide note left, and that the note confirms that the reason for the suicide is attributed to the pressure put on that employee as a result of the Government's policy of taking away the right to belong to a trade union."

Mrs Thatcher refused to comment on the note but said "any suicide, and I am aware of the one to which you refer, accompanied by a suicide note, will be a matter for the coroner".

A GCHQ spokesman in Cheltenham admitted that a member of staff had died "in unusual circumstances" but would not elaborate.

The deaths of all staff at GCHQ, other than from natural cuases, are scrutinized by GCHQ's welfare and security division.

RAF police question airmen over cannabis

Royal Air Force police are questioning 15 airmen at the communications base at RAF Digby in Loncolnshire about the taking of cannabis but the station commander said yesterday that he did not know whether they were also investigating breaches of security.

Wing Commander Gwynne Hitchings said yesterday: "I have no reason to believe that there is a security aspect involved. The allegations that the situation is similar to the one in Cyprus is fanciful."

Last week the Government admitted that British airmen in Cyprus had passed classified information to the Soviet Union. Reports said that the men had been blackmailed by women in dance halls offering sex.

"The investigations began about March 22" Wing Commander Hitchings said. "Nothing has been found on the base, they are investigating the taking of drugs."

Sale room

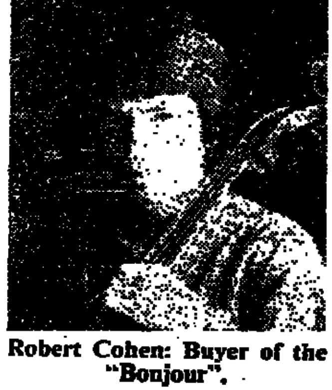
Record £275,000 for Stradivari cello

By Geraldine Norman, Sale Room Correspondent

Robert Cohen, the cellist, yesterday payed £275,000 for a cello at Sotheby's through an agent, Robert Holden Ltd. The price is an auction record for any stringed instrument, beating the £175,000 paid by the same agent on behalf of Julian Lloyd Webber last June.

The cello was made by Antonio Stradivari in Cremona around 1690. It is known as the "Bonjour" after a nineteenth century owner, Abel Bonjour, a Parisian collector who was also an amateur musician. It was made early in Stradivari's career, before his "golden" period, but the tone is generally considered superb. Sotheby's had been forecasting a price between £200,000 and £300,000.

Mr Cohen, aged 24, said yesterday that he had reached a point in his international career when he needed an instrument of this calibre. He will be using it on April 16 at the Barbican when he plays Elgar's cello



Robert Cohen: Buyer of the "Bonjour".

concerto with the Hallé orchestra.

Among the other particularly distinguished instruments in the sale was the "Bucher" Stradivari violin made in Cremona in 1683 which sold for £101,200 (estimate £80,000 to £120,000) and a Joseph Filius Guarneri violin made in 1714 which made £88,000 (estimate £70,000 to £100,000). Both sold to Peter Biddulph, the London dealer.

The most unusual lot in the sale was a set of bagpipes made in North Shields in 1830 by Robert Reid which was bought by the National Museum of Antiquities of Scotland at £3,960 (estimate £2,000 to £3,000). They are of a design thought to have been used only in Ireland, but these were made in North Shield by Reid, a well-known maker of Nothumbrian pipes and presented to Rober Millar, a musician of Montrose. They had remained in his family ever since and were sold with a manuscript book of 381 tunes for the pipes in his own hand.

The morning sale totalled £807,653 with 7 per cent left unsold. Instruments in poor condition were still quite difficult to sell.

Seat belts given credit for 20% fall in casualties

The compulsory wearing of seat belts was estimated to have reduced fatal and serious casualties among car occupants in road accidents by an estimated 20 to 25 per cent, the Department of Transport said yesterday.

In its report on road casualties in 1983, based on provisional figures released yesterday, the department said that from February to December, 1983, there were 475 fewer deaths among front-seat occupants of cars and light vans than in the same period in 1982, and 7,000 fewer serious injuries. These reductions, of some 25 per cent, were despite a 1 per cent increase in car and light van traffic.

Overseas selling prices
Austria Sch 29; Belgium B frs 50; Canada $2.75; Canaries Pes 170; Cyprus 550 mls; Denmark Dkr 8.50; Finland Mkk 8.00; France Frs 7.00; Germany DM 3.50; Greece Dr 100; Holland Gl 3.40; Irish Republic 40p; Italy L 2200; Luxembourg Lf 38; Madeira Esc 128; Morocco Dir 8.00; Norway Kr 8.50; Pakistan Rps 18; Portugal Esc 125; Singapore $5.50; Spain Pes 170; Sweden Skr 8.00; Switzerland S Frs 3.00; Tunisia Din 0.700; USA $1.75; Yugoslavia Din 100

£250m scheme unveiled to repair defective homes sold by councils

By Christopher Warman, Property Correspondent

Proposals to give financial help to house owners who bought council homes which were later found to be defective were outlined by the Government in its Housing Defects Bill published yesterday.

About 16,500 owners who bought prefabricated reinforced concrete homes from the public sector are included in the proposals, under which grants of up to 100 per cent will be offered for repairs. It is estimated the scheme could cost £250m.

House or flat owners whose homes the Governemnt agrees are defective and who bought them from councils before the faults became generally known will be eligible for help.

Under the scheme, those eligible will have the right of assistance, and local authorities will be under a statutory duty to assist either by a repair grant or repurchase.

Grants of 90 per cent of the cost of correcting the faults will be made by local housing authorities with the full cost being met in cases of financial hardship.

If the local authority is not satisfied that the reinstated house would provide satisfactory accommodation for at least 30 years and be mortgageabale with a lending institution in the private sector "It will be under a duty to repurchase the house at 95 per cent of its defect free value if the owner wishes".

Where a house or flat is repurchased under the Bill, the authority will be required to pay the owner's reasonable legal expenses, and will be required if necessary to grant him a secure tenancy in the house or flat or in other suitable accommodation.

The Government is to meet 90 per cent of the repair costs paid by the housing authority, and will also provide 75 per cent of the authority's expenditure in excess of a home's effective value in cases of repurchase.

About 170,000 of the prefabricated houses were built in Britain, mainly during the 1950s. The Government has been forced to act because of their deterioration. The cost of repairs could be about £8,000 a house, but to repurchase them would cost about £18,000 a house.

The announcement failed to satisfy the Association of Metropolitan Authorities. Mr John Donnelly, chairman of the association's housing committee, said the legislation "only plays at meeting the crisis of Britain's crumbling housing".

There were £10,000m worth of housing defects waiting to be repaired, he said. Those defects affect some 300 types of industrialized housing. The Governnment's answer is a trifling Bill that will help only those people who own their own homes and then only of they happen to own one of the 26 types the Government has chosen to identify."

Builders offer guarantees

By Our Property Correspondent

The building industry is hoping to set up a guarantee scheme under which remedial work up to the value of £25,000 will be carried out to rectify defective home improvement work.

The scheme, put forward by the Building Employers Confederation, is intended to encourage householders to use reputable builders for home improvements rather than employ cowboy builders from whom there is no redress.

Before the scheme can be implemented, the confederation has to get the approval of the Restrictive Practices Court, and a hearing is to be held in June.

The confederation yesterday declined to comment on the issue but the draft guarantee scheme is being studied by the Office of Fair Trading.

The confederation has been increasingly concerned at the activities of the cowboy builders, which it describes as a "malignant cancer that may soon be inperable". It estimate that the black economy in the building industry is worth £2,000m. "Few cowboys carry basic public liability and works insurance or have sufficient funds to reinstate damaged work," it said.

Video disc company to open 20 centres

By Bill Johnstone
Technology Correspondent

Pioneer, the Japanese hi-fi company which makes video discs based on Philips technology, is to open 20 centres around Britain in the next six months. This is the latest attempt by a disc manufacturer to raise people's awareness about the product.

The news comes after an announcement by RCA, the American manufacturer of a rival system, to pull out of the market after writing off about £340m in the past five years. The American decision now means that Phillips may have taken a step toward creating a standard video disc. The RCA system uses a sort of stylus, while the Philips design uses a laser.

However, Hitachi will continue to manufacture and market the RCA system in Britain. An RCA statement said: "We took the video disc decision with disappointment in the face of continuing losses and narrowing prospects that the business would turn profitable".

Pioneer plans to expand to move more than 40 centres within a year as the company attempts to get disc players into 10 per cent of British homes. The centres, which will be in existing hi-fi stores, will demonstrate the players and stock at least half of the 430-title disc catalogue. Later the promotion will be taken unto department stores.

A Pioneer marketing executive said: "The laser disc is such a brand new technology and the awareness of it so low that the only way to sell it is to get the consumer to experience it."

RCA had sold about 700,000 of its machines in the United States.

In the past two years, Pioneer has sold about 90,000 machines in the United States and 100,000 in Japan. Its product is geared principally toward the hi-fi market.

Two weeks ago, Philips announced a cut in the price of video disc players in Britain to bring them into line with RCA. This makes some Philips models half the price of Pioneer's.



First lady: Second Officer Liz Nuttall, aged 33, today becomes the first female member of a ship's company to live on board the ship at sea when she leaves Devonport as personal assistant to the captain of HMS Hermes. The ship is on sea trials for six days.

Dr Jones will not face charges

By a Staff Reporter

No action is to be taken against Dr Robert Jones over the murder of his wife, the Director of Public Prosecutions announced yesterday.

Suffolk police said in a statement yesterday: "The Suffolk Constabulary has been advised by the Director of Public Prosecutions that, as matters stand, there is insufficient evidence to justify the institution of proceedings against Dr Jones for the murder of his wife. Inquiries into the death of Diane Jones will continue."

The DPP's office, which has been studying police files on the murder since February, would not add to that statement.

The battered body of Mrs Jones, aged 35, was found in a wood in Brightwell, Suffolk, last October, three months after she had disappeared from their home in Coggeshall, Essex.

Dr Jones aged 41, was on police bail during the murder investigation and in November he was arrested and questioned for more than 54 hours.

In early February he was interviewed for a further seven hours at Suffolk police headquarters, near Ipswich. He told a television reporter that at he first interview police offered him a deal on sentencing, if would confess to the murder.

Police searched the doctor's house, drilled holes in a chimney breast, dug up his garden seven times and excavated a large trench beside a new by-pass outside his home.

Dr Jones, who once said that he was not just a suspect but the only suspect, told reporters outside his home yesterday: "No one in my position could fail to be relieved that he constant pressure of the past nine months will be lifted. I have had to put up with the continous attentions of the media, with people parked outside my house day and night, and cameras trained on my windows".

The decision was given to Dr Jones a general practitioner, yesterday by Det Chief Supt Eric Shields, head of Suffolk CID.

Afterwards, Mr David Church, Dr Jones's solicitor, said: "Dr Jones has maintained his innocence throughout, and this conclusion is entirely consistent with that. Now he just wants to be left alone to lead his life in peace".



Dr Jones: Criticized media attention.

Blood sample plea illegal

From Our Correspondent, Welshpool

Welshpool Crown court yesterday allowed an appeal by a motorist who claimed that a police request for a blood sample had been unlawful.

Richard Arthur Edwards, aged 33, of White Friars, Oswestry, appealed against conviction and sentence for failing to provide a blood sample.

Mr Philip Hughes, for the police, said Mr Edwards had pleaded not guilty in the lower court and had been fined £130 and disqualified for 12 months.

Police Constable Martyn Phllips said the Welshpool police station's intoximeter was not working that night and Mr Edwards had been asked for a blood sample and had refused.

Mrs Elwen Evans, for Mr Edwards, said he had been prepared to give a breath or urine sample. It was an essential part of the statutory provision that the officer conducting the procedure exercised discretion in deciding whether blood or urine was provided if the intoximeter was not available.

Six-months' test

● The Home Office has appointed a scientist to study the results of the six-month period during which motorists failing evidential breath tests will be able to insist on blood or urine tests (a Staff Reporter writes).

In a written Commons reply yesterday Mr Douglas Hurd, Minister of State, announced the appointment of Professor Sir William Paton, professor of pharmacology at Oxford University, to conduct an independent scrutiny of the monitoring programme.

Wife has latest lung and heart transplant

By Thomson Prentice, Science Correspondent

A young mother was given a new heart and lungs yesterday in only the third operation of its kind in Britain. Both earlier patients died.

Between the death of the second patient, Mrs Jean Jones, on Monday, and the operation yesterday on Mrs Brenda Barker, there have been two heart transplants, which support a growing belief that the public has become more conscious of the value of donor organs.

Mrs Barber, aged 36, from Lewisham, south London was in a "satisfactory" condition after becoming the first patient at Papworth Hospital, Cambridgeshire, to have a heart-lung transplant. The previous two operations were performed at Harefield Hospital, west London.

The five-hour operation was led by a senior surgeon, Mr John Wallwork, who has helped with heart-lung surgery at Stanford University Hospital, California, where the technique was pioneered. He was assisted by Mr Terence English, head of the transplant unit at Papworth, and Mr Richard Cory-Pearce.

Mrs Barber was one of several patients on a short-list of about 30 who had been referred to the hospital by their family doctors.

She had been ill with fibrosis, a condition which congests lungs. The decision to give her a new heart as well as lungs is understood to have been based on evidence that lung transplants on their own have a high failure rate.

A hospital spokesman, Mr John Edwards, said that the operation "went forward smoothly". Mrs Barber was later visited by her husband Stephen, a businessman. The couple have a daughter, Samantha Jane, aged five.

Papworth surgeons have been researching heart-lung transplant techniques for two years and consider the surgery a natural extension of their heart transplant programme. They have been ready for the past three months, once a suitable patient and donor organs became available.

An important part of the research has been into ways of transporting delicate lung tissue without the movement of the donor's body from one hospital to another. In yesterday's operation, the distance involved was considered too large, and the donor's body was brought to Papworth.

The identity of the donor was not released at the request of relatives, who wanted no publicity.

Mrs Jean Jones, who died in Harefield Hospital, survived 17 days after her operation. The first heart-lung transplant at Harefield, Mr Lars Ljungber, died 14 days after his operation in December.

Two heart transplant operations were carried out at Harefield this week.

Judges' pay 'low' for barristers

By Frances Gibb
Legal Affairs Correspondent

Barristers may be deterred from taking up appointments as circuit judges because of the present pay levels, Mr Michael Wright, QC, chairman of the Bar, said yesterdy.

He wolcomed the Lord Chancellor's announcement that the number of full-time circuit judges in England and Wales, now 348, was to be increased by 10 per cent.

"We are very happy to see more judges appointed so that backlogs in the crown court can be cut further and there will be less reliance on part-time work by recorders," Mr Wright said.

He added however that although there was no question that the Bar had sufficient numbers of high-quality candidates for the job, the difficulty would be "in persuading QCs to leave their practices for a salary of £31,000, when they are probably earning twice that.

The salary was quite inadequate for a job demanding such a high level of responsibility, he said. Nor was there now the added incentive of pension entitlements.

The new appointments are being made because of a 45 per cent increase in crown court cases between 1979 and 1983, with resulting delays for those awaiting trial, especially in London.

Mr Wright urged an increase in the salary levels if good judges were to be appointed.

Computers to help injured

By Our Technology Correspondent

A new Bristol-based charity which will use microcomputer games to aid the recovery of accident victims suffering brain damage is to be launched next month.

The new organization called the Head Injury Recovery Trust will be launched with an appeal for £45,000 and will provide the finance necessary for 10 microcomputers and the support staff required for the project.

Computer games apparently help the victims of motor cycling and sporting accidents to recover their concentration and decision-making functions.

The scheme is based on the work performed at the Burden Neurological Institute and the Department of Neurosurgery at the Frenchay Hospital, both in Bristol.

£2m for Old Masters

By Geraldine Norman, Sale Room Correspondent

The National Gallery of Scotland in Edinburgh is to pay just more than £2m for four superb Old Master paintings from the Duke of Sutherland's collection, it was announced yesterday.

The National Heritage Memorial Fund is contributing about £1m towards the price and the gallery is finding the remainder from its own resources. The duke has agreed for payment to be made by instalments over the next 12 months.

The paintings which are being purchased are Tintoretto's "The Entombment of Christ", Lorenzo Lotto's "Virgin and Child with Four Saints", Jan Steen's "A School for Boys and Girls" and Gerard Dou's "Interior with a Young Violinist". They were among 30 paintings which the duke has lent to the gallery since 1946.

There would have been a large tax bill to pay had the pictures been sold on the open market and the price takes that into account. The open market value of the pictures would be about £5m.

Uproar as judges refuse to allow Kelly's appeal

A Court of Appeal inquiry into a Liverpool clubland killing ended in uproar yesterday.

Supporters of Dennis Kelly shouted and swore after judges rejected his application for leave to appeal against his murder conviction.

Kelly struggled with prison officers as the judges ruled that he had been tried "fairly and squarely" and convicted on abundant evidence of stabbing to death Mr William Oan, a Liverpool newsagent.

Kelly, of Garston, Liverpool, was jailed for life last June.

Kelly, aged 35, had been arrested at a flat in London soon after the stabbing, carrying a passport and £1,200, Lord Justice Watkins said yesterday.

He had called two witnesses to support his claim that he had nothing to do with the attack. However, the fresh evidence, from Mr Alan Hesse and Terence Lamb, was incredible, the judge said.

He said of the evidence of Mr Hesse, who claimed he had not come forward earlier because he thought Kelly would be acquitted: "Rarely can a court have listened to such humbug".

He continued: "We simply do not believe that he would stand idly by when Kelly was in danger of being convicted of so serious an offence as murder."

Afterwards Mrs Helen Kelly said the fight would go on – "to the Court of Human Rights in Strasbourg, if necessary".

Aerobic classes 'causing epidemic of injuries'

By Our Science Correspondent

Aerobic fitness classes have produced a near epidemic of injuries, according to physical education experts.

A course in health and exercise studies has been launched for aspiring aerobics teachers, partly to combat what some experts describe as poorly-instructed and poorly-supervised classes.

The Jane-Fonda *Work Out* book was criticized at a news conference on Wednesday to announce the new course.

Yesterday, Miss Nadine Hobson, a registered oesteopath representing the British School of Osteopathy's sports clinic, said: "Aerobics will help keep women fit but they won't make them fit.

"Women should adapt exercises, such as those advocated by Jane Fonda, to their own bodies, and not attempt to adapt their bodies to the exercises."

The clinic said: "There are 60 new cases of injury being recorded in the London area alone each month from dance classes of this kind. The medical profession is very concerned at what is almost an epidemic of these injuries".

Miss Karinn Rankin, of the Physical Education Association, said: "Aerobics under certain circumstances can cause damage, particularly back injuries. People should not just throw themselves into this type of exercise".

The new course, lasting 120 hours, has been devised by the association with the support of the Back Pain

Wisden wins his applause in granite

By Rupert Morris

The gulf between cricketers past and present was poignantly illustrated yesterday by a ceremony at the Brompton Cemetery in west London to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the death of John Wisden, of Sussex and England, and, more importantly, founder of the game's bible, *Wisden Cricketers' Almanack.*

John Barclay, captain of Sussex, had been due to unveil the black granite headstone commissioned by the Wisden organization, but decided against it, insisting he had to attend the county's first serious training session, under the direction of an instructor from Lewes prison.

This joyless approach to the new season will doubtless have caused Wisden to gyrate furiously beneath his gleaming memorial.

One can only hope he was mollified by the tributes paid to him by David Frith, Australian-born editor of *Wisden Cricket Monthly.*

Mr Frith, whose unquenchable enthusiam for the great names of cricket has led him to the discovery of more than 150 cricketers' graves, traced Wisden's last resting place a year ago.

Wisden would also have appreciated a singularly appropriate address from the Ven Timothy Raphael, Archdeacon of Middlesex, who called on God to guide all those present along the right path, and "to lead us to avoid all that is not cricket".

Permanent memorial to "The Little Wonder" (Photograph: John Voos).

International ballet in Edinburgh

Three dance companies will star at this year's Edinburgh Festival, it was announced yesterday.

They are the Paris Opera Ballet, appearing under the direction of Rudolf Nureyev, the Komische Opera Ballet, from Berlin and the Royal Thai Ballet.

Nureyev is to dance at all five performances of the Paris company.

Mr Frank Dunlop, festival director, said there would also be nine orchestras, two opera companies, eight theatre companies and seven major exhibitions, the largest being from the Smithsonian Institute.

Other highlights of the festival, from August 12 to September 1, are ballooning and kite flying

PARLIAMENT, APRIL 5 1984

Machine guns ordered by Labour in 1976

POLICING

In 1976 the then Labour administration authorized the Metropolitan Police to buy some conventional sub-machine guns, Mrs Margaret Thatcher, the Prime Minister, revealed in the Commons. She was replying to Mr James Callaghan who became Prime Minister in April 1976 and who during question time criticized the recent approval of the purchase of up to a dozen 9mm Heckler and Koch MP5K compact sub-machine guns.

Mr Callaghan (Cardiff South and Penarth, Lab) had said: In giving permission for the Metropolitan Police to acquire sub-machine guns, has the Government considered the impact of this serious further step in arming the polic on the relationship between police and public and the nature of the police service itself?

Recognizing the dilemma of the Government in protecting heads of government, would it nt be *preferable to give responsibility to* members of the regular Armed Services when faced with a short-term need which could have an effect, by arming the police with sub-machine guns, on the traditional character of the police force, sacrificing long-term benefits of traditional policing to short-term need?

Mrs Thatcher: The Home Secretary agreed to a request from the Metropolitan Police for the purchase of a small number of sub-machine guns.

As I indicated on Tuesday, and as Mr Callaghan will recallect, perhaps, it is within public knowledge that as long ago as 1976 the then Labour administration approved the acquisition by the Metropolitan Police of a small number of conventional sub-machine guns, for possible use in a terrorist emergency. I am sure the then Home Secretary had that very much in mind.

Mr Callaghan rose to put another question but was not called.

Mr Eldon Griffiths (Bury St Edmunds, C): Authorization of that purchase by the police was given by Mr Roy Jenkins (Glasgow, Hillhead, SDP) when he was Home Secretary.

When the Leader of the Opposition *seeks to make mischief and to* attack the British police for doing now what his own party authorized them to do, he is stabbing in the back the best police service in the world. (Labour protests)

Mrs Thatcher: I am sure that any Home Secretary would consider that request very carefully and I am sure that Mr Leon Brittan, the Home Secretary, did so, and had very good reason for granting it.

Mr Kinnock, on a point of order later, denied Mr Griffiths's assertion that he had attacked the police.

That has never been true, is not true and never will be true (he said). My reference to the use of sub machine guns, to their provision for bodyguard purposes, is anything but an attack on the police for whom I have every respect.

Mr Griffiths is sponsored here by the Police Federation. My opinions are held in common with Mr Callaghan, with the editor of *Gun Review*, himself a former inspector of police who said the Government's position was horrendous, and with the editor of *The Times*.

The Speaker (Mr Bernard Weatherill) said many provocative things were said in the House from both sides but he did not want to have an extension of question time.

After the business for next week had been announced, **Mr Callaghan** asked Mr John Biffen, Leader of the House, to ask the Prime Minister for a further statement on the best method of safeguarding visiting heads of government in Britain.

Will he (he continued) ask her to make available to me the papers on which the decision was taken by Mr Roy Jenkins in 1976 so that I may see if a mistake was made by him or me?

While that does not alter the present situation it seems appropriate that some serious consideration should be given to this matter.



Callaghan: Let me see who made mistake

Drink-drivedeaths

Mrs Lynda Chalker, Minister of State for Transport, in a written *Commons reply, said that* provisional estimates for 1983 showed that 33 per cent of car drivers killed in road traffic accidents in Great Britain were over the current breathalyser limit.

Londoners to get right to vote for education authority

EDUCATION

The Government's decision that the body to replace the Inner London Education Authority should be directly-elected rather than a joint board of appointees was announced in a statement in the Commons by **Sir Keith Joseph**, Secretary of State for Education and Science.

Reacting to the statement, **Mr Andrew Bennett**, an Opposition spokesman on education, congratulated the Secretary of State on accepting the advice of the people of London to have a directly elected body to run education in central London.

Sir Keith Joseph said: The Government has been considering the responses to the White Paper, *Streamlining the Cities*, and the associated consultation documents. It proposed that there should continue to be a unitary education service in inner London, run by a single education authority. It also proposed that tha authority should be a joint board of councillors appointed by the inner London borough councils and the Common Council of the City.

Those whom we consulted, in particular those members of this House and others with a close understanding of the needs of education in inner London, were overwhelmingly in favour of a directly-elected authority. We have been persuaded by their arguments.

The nature, scale and importance of the education service in inner London, taken together, justify a directly-elected authority in this special case.

We propose therefore that the successor body to the ILEA should be *directly* elected. We intend to provide for this in the main legislation abolishing the GLC and the metropolitan county councils, to be introduced in the next session.

It remains our intention that the new education authority for inner London should be made subject to statutory review in the light of experience.

Mr Andrew Bennett, for the Opposition: Will the boroughs be able opt out of the new authority or have any powers of veto?

Sir Keith Joseph: We are not in any way qualifying the decision to abolish the GLC and the metropolitan counties.

On the boroughs opting out, the Government had decided that the continuing education authority should be a unitary education authority for inner London. There would be in the main Bill a power to review these arrangements following a study of how the replacement authority does.

He agreed that inner London certainly faced extra costs on education but these extra costs were proveded for in the special features built in to the rate support grant.

I cannot agree (he continued) that despite all the zeal of those concerned with education in inner London that the results represent satisfactory value for money for the ratepayers or parents.

Mr John Maples (Lewisham West, C): A directly-elected ILEA will lead not only to better educational standards but to better control of spending on education.

Sir Keith Joseph: *Arrangements are* proposed that will provide a clear indication to London ratepayers of the cost of education in inner London.

Mr Nigel Forman (Carshalton and Wallington, C): In many ways it may become a very legitimate pressure group for spending.

Sir Keith Joseph: Almost any body concerned with education in inner London will probably represent widespread, if not universal, demands for more spending.

In this case it is likely the authority will be exposed to nomination for rate capping. Direct elections will slightly enhance the propensity to look for value for money.

Mr Alfred Dubs (Battersea, Lab) asked for some of the present members of ILEA to be allowed to continue in office, otherwise there would be a great deal of disruption.

Mr Simon Hughes (Southwark and Bermondsey, L) said although the Liberal Party welcomed the announcement, the interim arrangements could cause untold disruption for three years.

Sir Keith Joseph said this argument had a certain validity.

Finance should determine spending

THE ECONOMY

Mr Nigel Lawson, Chancellor of the Exchequer, assured the Commons during questions that it was his firm intention that finance should determine expenditure, and not the other way round.

Too often in the past (he said) expenditure has been allowed to grow in response to perceived needs. This led to a total of expenditure far greater than the economy could safely carry and to many of the problems we had in the past.

That is why it is our firm intention to ensure that public expenditure in total is maintained within what the economy can afford, allowing for a further reduction in public borrowing and a further reduction in taxation.

He was confident that the Budget measures would give the British economy the best chance of sustaining and continuing the sound recovery now under way – the soundest for a very long time.

Various parts of the economy would benefit from this.

When **Mr Edward Leigh** (Gainsborough and Horncastle, C) asked for a statement on the public sector borrowing requirement following recent changes in interest rates, **Mr Lawson** replied: The Budget estimate for the PSBR for 1983-84 was £10,000m or 3¼ per cent of GDP. The outturn will be published on *Tuesday, April 17*. The PSBR forecast for 1984-85 is £7,250m or 2¼ per cent of GDP.

Mr Leigh: Given that the PSBR as a proportion of GDP has declined *from 5.4 per cent in 1979 to 3¼ per* cent today and interest rates have declined from 12 per cent to 8 per cent, would he confirm the devastating effect the high Government borrowing has on industry's ability to borrow? In other words, the more the Government borrows the harder it is for anyone else.



Leigh: Effect of high Government borrowing

Mr Lawson: He is quite right. One of the Government's main objectives in bringing the borrowing requirement down, as it has, is to ensure that the continued reduction in inflation will be achieved alongside a steady reduction in interest rates.

If we compare the United States with the United Kingdom, since 1979 UK long-term rates have been reduced by 3 per cent and over the same period US long-term rates increased by 3 per cent.

Mr Joe Ashton (Bassetlaw, Lab): When last spring the building societies wanted to increase interest rates they deferredit until after the June election. When they wanted to reduce them they did it in May which affect the rate of increase in pensions this coming November. How does he manage to train his poodles so well?

Mr Lawson: The building societies take their own decisions in their own time. This Government, unlike the previous Labour Government, does not seek to intervene.

Mr Ian Wrigglesworth (Stockton South, SDP): How will the sale of £2,000m worth of BT stock and other public sector stock sales later this year affect the market? Will it *not cause crowding out?*

Mr Lawson: It will not cause crowding out. There is ample capacity both for the reduced Government borrowing and for the amount of equity issues both in the private and public sectors. It will assist in reducing the demands the Government has to make on the gilt-edged market.

Mr Roy Hattersley, chief Opposition spokesman on Treasury and economic affairs: If there is a simple relationship between Government borrowing and interest rates, why is it in Germany, Japan, Austria, Switzerland and the Netherlands there are larger levels of government borrowing but lower long-term interest rates?

Mr Lawson: The countries he mentions have been successful in getting inflation down to lower levels than we have so far. Interest rates are also affected by the level of inflation and therefore Government policy is a combination of getting public borrowing and inflation down.

Satellite status for GLC

PM's QUESTIONS

The Prime Minister restated her determination to abolish the Greater London Council and the six Metropolitan county councils when faced with a demand during questions from **Mr Neil Kinnock**, Leader of the Opposition, to scrap such plans.

Mr Kinnock declared: Is not the Prime Minister ashamed to be bringing before Parliament a Bill *that will remove voting rights from* 13 million electors in Greater London and the metropolitan counties? Will she, in the name of basic British democracy, ensure that this Bill is withdrawn?

Mrs Thatcher: No. (Conservative laughter).

Mr Kinnock: I note the humour of Conservative MPs at the removal of those democratic rights. Is not this exactly the misuse and abuse of government power of which Mr Francis Pym (Cambridgeshire, C) warned during the general election?

Will the Prime Minister try at some stage to provide facts that are supposed to support her case for taking away that? When in any democratic country did any democratic government give satellite status to the council of its own capital city?

Mrs Thatcher: The policy was endorsed by the votes of 13 million people at the general election. (*Labour protests*).

Mr Kinnock: If she is referring to her manifesto, there is no mention of any description about the abolition of the right to vote in any circumstances. She may have a mandate for certain things but she has no mandate whatsoever for imposing puppet councils on London and the metropolitan countries.

Mrs Thatcher: The abolition of the GLC and Metropolitan County Councils was promised in our manifesto. I intend to carry out those abolitions.

Death at GCHQ a matter for coroner

The alleged suicide of an *employee* at the Government Communications Headquarters at Cheltenham was a matter for the coroner who would have the note which had bee left. Mrs Thatcher said during Prime Minister's questions.

Dr John Marek (Wrexham, Lab) in raising the matter, asked: Did the Prime Minister hear the lunchtime news which carried a report of a death in unexplained circumstances *of an employee of GCHQ*, Cheltenham? Can she give any further information?

Mrs Thatcher: I am not quite certain to which matter he is referring. I do know a number ... and they will be reported in due time when all information is known.

Mr Simon Hughes (Southwark and Bermondsey, L): *Will she confirm* as her office has already confirmed, the report that an employee at GCHQ has, in the past day or two, committed suicide, and that that has been confirmed by GCHQ?

Will she confirm that there was a note left and that that confirms that the reason for the suicide is attributed to pressue by an employee as a result of Government policy in taking away the right to *join trade unions?*

Will the inquest be in public and will the report be made available to the House? Will she make a statement about the matter?

Mrs Thatcher: Any suicide – I am aware of one accompanied by a suicide note – will be a matter for the coroner. The note will be in the possession of the coroner, I would expect.

EEC surpluses had to be reduced

Protests at the cuts being imposed on British dairy production were made to the Prime Minister during question time in the Commons by **Mr David Steel**, Leader of the Liberal Party, and **Mr Nicholas Winterton** (Macclesfield, C), but **Mrs Thatcher** said that other Community dairy industries were taking as severe cuts.

Mr Steel asked: Will she justify the sudden severe cut in milk production, in which Britain was less than self sufficient, whereas France over produces but has only one *third of the cuts. For small dairy* farmers, this will spell financial disaster.

Mrs Thatcher: In liquid milk, we are self-sufficient and in dairy products, nearly so, and perhaps more so when we take into account imports from New Zealand.

I thought perhaps Mr Steel was in favour of the Community on agricultural policy. I do not accept what he says. I hope that he agrees with recent decisions to reduce overall surpluses in the interests of the Community, especially those to pay for surpluses, which are subsidized.

Mr Winterton: Will Mrs Thatcher find time in the not too distant future to visit some of my dairy farmers and explain to them why the full burden of the irresponsibility of successive governments in the European Community is being placed on their shoulders?

Bearing in mind the schemes introduced in the coal and steel industries, will the Government introduce a United Kingdom-funded scheme here?

Mrs Thatcher: There are dairy farmers in the Community who are taking as big a cut: Germany and Holland slightly large cuts, for example.

It was necessary to try to reduce surpluses which are being stock-piled. A year's supply of butter is stock-piled.

No plans to close Tube stations

LONDON

There were no plans to close any Tube station or any bus route in London, **Mrs Lynda Chalker**, Minister of State for Trasport, said in the Commons when the report stage of the London Regional Transport Bill resumed.

There was also no truth in the allegation she added, *that 33* tube stations and 32 bus routes would close when the Government assumed responsibility. There was no hit list. Such claims made by the GLC were totally without foundation and had worried Londoners.

For 1984-85, the Government had approved a £300m subsidy for London Transport, contrary to the scurrilous rumours put about by the GLC-financed campaign bandwagon.

Mrs Chalker was moving a new clause imposing a duty on London Regional Transport to publish an annual business *plan* covering its activities and those of its susbsidiaries in the light of any guidance given by the Secretary of State.

She *said the Opposition* had tabled amendments suggesting that still more detail should be included in the planes. These were either misguided or superfluous.

The first Opposition amendment was rejected by 260 votes to 167 – Government majority, 93.

The new clause was agreed to.

Takeaways will not suffer serious loss of trade

VAT PROPOSALS

There were Labour interruptions when **Mr Nigel Lawson**, Chancellor of the Exchequer, stated during question time in the Commons that he had no present intention of extending VAT beyond the areas to which it was extended in the Budget three weeks previously.

He had been asked by **Mr Robert Sheldon** (Ashton-under-Lyne, Lab), during exchanges about representations received complaining about the VAT proposals in the Budget, to give an undertaking that he had no intention of imposing VAT on basic foods.

On other matters **Mr Hugh Dykes** (Harrow East, C) asked: If major reconstructions of old buildings do not remain zero-rated, is he not concerned that old buildings, particularly those outside the higher value areas of London and elsewhere, could suffer accelerated decay and decline? Will he look seriously at this problem again?

Mr Lawson: I appreciate there is concern in some quarters but I do not believe these fears are justified. In addition to the fact that it will still be economic in many cases to refurbish and improve buildings, there are also generous improvement grants available.

Mr Robert Atkins (South Ribble, C): Is he aware of the information published in *Regional Trends* recently, namely that more people in the North West eat black pudding and potatoes than any other part of the country? Therefore his proposal to put VAT on takeaway food will be of particular disadvantage to those people living in the North West?

Mr Lawson: On most occasions, though not all, black puddings are sold cold so they would not be *affected by the tax. I realise there is* some concern in the North West about this. Nobody likes the introduction of a new tax.

When I was in Manchester on Friday I was met by a delegation from the Chinese community who own not only a large number of Chinese takeaway establishments but also fish and chip shops in the Greater Manchester area. I do not believe this will lead to any serious *loss of trade for these businesses.*

What I sought to do was to lower income tax for a very large number of people, to raise tax thresholds so the average married couple had £2 a week less to pay in income tax. That had to be done at the cost of increasing other taxes elsewhere.

Mr Malcolm Bruce (Gordon, L): This change in tax on building repairs has caused considerable confusion in the building industry. In the wake of a situation where grants were previously available we are now levying a tax on exactly the same area.

This is likely to lead to further unemployment in the construction industry which already accounts for one quarter of the jobless.

Mr Lawson: On the contrary, the construction industry not only had a very much better year last year but *was further assisted by the Budget* measures in two areas: the abolition of the National Insurance surcharge – this is a conspicuously labour-intensive industry – and the halving of stamp duty to 1 per cent and the raising of the tax threshold from £25,000 to £30,000 on stamp duty.

The industry iself is confident this will give it an important fillip.

There was confusion under the old system

Two-pronged approach to foreign debt

BANKS

The international financial community, including Britain, was adopting a two-pronged approach to international debt rescheduling, **Mr Nigel Lawson**, Chancellor of the Exchepuer, told the Commons at question time. This approach consisted of helping debtor countries and ensuring that they put their own house in order.

Mr Dennis Skinner (Bolsover, Lab) had asked him to confirm that in the past six months the amount of rescheduling that had had to take place for the countries concerned had increased by about 35 per cent.

The Brazilian Ambassador had said that the rescheduling being imposed upon Brazil was likely to lead in a period of austerity to malnutrition and urban violence.

This year, prior to the American presidential election, there would be an increase in interest rates as a result of which there would be a greater amount of restriction on those countries that were being rescheduled.

Sir Anthony Grant (South West Cambridgeshire, C): an awful lot of nonsense is talked about the rescheduling of these debts, not least by Mr Skinner.

The British banks have behaved completely responsibly in this matter and in accordance with the best banking practice to reach agreement

Mr Lawson: He is right. *If there is* some scope for criticism of banks throughout the world, and it applies more to the Americans than to the British, it is that they have allowed themselves to become over-extended in these countries.

Finance Bill

The main business in the House of Commons next week will be:

Monday: London Regional Transport Bill, completion of remaining stages.

Tuesday: Finance (No 2) Bill, second reading.

Wednesday: Local Government (Interim Provisions) Bill, second reading.

Thursday: Housing and Building Control Bill, Lords amendments.

Friday: Easter adjournment dabates on various topics.

The main business in the House of Lords will be:

Monday: Rates Bill, second reading.

Tuesday: Tenants' Rights, Etc (Scotland) Amendment Bill, report. Debate on the cost of drugs.

Wednesday: Debates on the need for managers in the NHS and on independent and state schools. Prayer Book Protection Bill, second reading.

Thursday: Rating and Valuation (Amendment) (Scotland) Bill, second reading.

Heathrow flights to be cut by 10,000

HOUSE OF LORDS

When Terminal 4 opens at London Heathrow airport towards the end of next year, there will have to be a reduction of some 10,000 flight movements a year to conform to the planning consent granted to the British Airways Authority, **Lord Trefgarne**, said for the Government during question time in the House of Lords.

Answering Lady Burton of Coventry (SDP), who had asked if it remained Government policy to keep flight movements to 275,000 when the new terminal opened, he said: Operators will be required to restrict the number of air transport movements at Heathrow to 275,000 a year when the fourth passenger terminal is open.

The level of movements at present is 262,000 a year and that is expected to increase to 285,000 sometime next year or perhaps later this year and we expect Terminal 4 to come into service towards the *end of next year, at which point it* will be necessary to reduce the number of movements.

The Government is presently considering how this allocation of movements will be decided but it hopes this will derive from agreement between the operators.

Lady Burton of Coventry: Where will these 10,000 movements go, or, is the Government proposing to leave matters until the situation actually arises and then decide it has not got anywhere to send them? Who is responsible for looking at this?

Lord Trefgarne: It will be for the British Airports Authority to ensure the number of flight movements is not exceeded. The reason is that the number of movements is a condition attached to the planning consent granted for Terminal 4.

The number of allocations of movement will be decided by the scheduling committee which already exists and the Government is considering what further assistance can be given.

Lady Burton of Coventry: It is not possible suddenly to deal with 10,000 extra movements: you must know in advance.

Lord Trefgarne: The scheduling committee is already empowered to deal with these matters. The number of 275,000 flight movements has been known for quite a long time so no one can say they have not had sufficient warning.

Parliament today

Commons (9.30): Private Members' Bills: Child Abduction Bill, report and third reading. Immigration Offences (Amendment) Bill, second reading.

Sympathy with demands for debate

COAL DISPUTE

Requests from MPs for a debate on the dispute in the coalfields were rejected by **Mr John Biffen**, Lord Privy Seal and Leader of the House but he expressed his sympathy with the requests.

However, **Mr Neil Kinnock**, Leader of the Opposition, pointed out that MPs would break for Easter at the end of next week. Meantime, concern about infringements of civil liberties which had been reported in the course of applications for emergency debates continued.

If there is no significant improvement in the circumstances (he said) Mr Gerald Kaufman, chief Opposition spokesman on home affairs, will seek an emergency debate.

Mr Kevin Barron (Rother Valley, C) said MPs from both sides believed the matter should be discussed. The Home Secretary (Mr Leon Brittan) has not made any statement since March 15 and many allegations have been made.

The dispute would have been on for more than two months if they do not debate it before the Easter recess at the end of next week.

Mr Biffen: I have a lot of sympathy with that anxiety beause the House properly expects to debate matters of major importance, but there are other factors to be considered. We will see how we go.

Mr Eldon Griffiths (Bury St Edmunds, C): While understanding the desire that nothing said in the House should exacerbate the situation in the coalfields, does Mr Biffen believe that we should go into the recess without there being some formal way on which these matters are properly debated?

Rather than leave it to the Speaker (Mr Bernard Weatherill) to deal with a whole series of requests for emergency debates, it would be better if the Government organized *things so we could have a debate* next week.

Mr Biffen repeated his sympathy with the point but said there was a *lot of legislation* which he had recommended to the House for completion before MPs rose for the Easter recess.

It is not just a question of wishing to measure one's words delicately in a serious situation; there are sound reasons for the House being as statesmanlike in its silence as in its speech.

Mr Dennis Skinner (Bolsover, Lab), on a point of order later, said the Speaker had been in the middle of a tug-of-war between the Government and others who had some influence in arranging business.

His constituents, particularly those who had watched the police putting blankets over the heads of a *handful of strike breakers and bundling them into a bus from the* picket line, would never believe that tonight's debate on the Ginns and Gutteridge, Leicester (Crematorium) Bill was more necessary to the nation and to civil liberties and freedom of the individual and to the activities of the police than was a debate on the coal mines dispute.

The Speaker: The Speaker is frequently in the middle of a tug-of-war. (Laughter).

Mr Alex Eadie (Midlothian, Lab) said Mr Ian MacGregor, the chairman of the National Coal Board, had said in today's press that he was prepared for a long struggle

Tory revolt on police computer data use

By Richard Evans

The Government narrowly avoided defeat yesterday over its proposal to exempt the police from having to disclose computer data unconnected with crime detection which it holds on millions of people.

Two Conservative MPs backed an opposition amendment at the standing committee on the data protection Bill which would have allowed individuals access to any information the police held on them for the alleged purpose of crime prevention.

In spite of the rebellion by Mr Steven Norris, MP for Oxford East, and Mr Richard Hickmet, MP for Galanford and Scunthorpe, the Government defeated the move by nine votes to eight.

Mr Robert Kilroy-Silk, Labour MP for Knowsley North, who proposed the change, said that although individuals should not have access to police files containing information which might lead to detection of serious crime, such an exemption should not extend to crime prevention.

Much of the information contained on police files was of a speculative, gossipy and hearsay nature. Law-abiding people had the right to see *information which unbeknown* to them was held by the police.

"We know that a great deal of information that the police have on their files turns out to be inaccurate, yet nevertheless very damaging", he said.

Mr Denis Howell, a Labour spokesman on home affairs, said that malicious gossip picked up by a policeman on an individual and placed on computer files could after a few years "be regarded as hard fact".

Mr Robert Maclennan, SDP MP for Caithness and Sutherland, said data on crime prevention was broad and open ended. "Such a wide exemption would nullify the whole purpose of the Bill".

Trespass in home soon to be crime

By Frances Gibb
Legal Affairs Correspondent

A government-backed Bill making it a criminal offence to trespass in some one's home reaches the Commons for second reading today.

It has passed through the Lords, where it was introduced after the outcry over the intrusion of Michael Fagan into Buckingham Palace.

Under the Bill anyone found guilty of entering a home intentionally and without reasonable excuse will face a fine or up to three months' jail, or both.

The Buckingham Palace *affair highlighted a gap in* English criminal law preventing police from prosecuting for such an intrusion. As intrusion is a civil wrong or tort, a householder's only remedy is to seek an order in a civil court to prevent further entry and, if appropriate, damages.

Letters, page 13

Engineers to check for ambulance wheel fault

By Clifford Webb

The Bedford motor company dismissed a newspaper report yesterday that 14 cases of rear wheels falling from ambulances had occurred in South Glamorgan *in the past six months*.

A company spokesman said: "No wheels have fallen off but there appear to be one or two cases where wheels have been found to be loose."

He said Bedford had built more than 400,000 vehicles with a similar chassis and running gear since 1969 without any history of wheel failures.

However, Bedford yesterday sent engineers led by a senior servicing executive to South Glamorgan to conduct an investigation.

Ambulance drivers there imposed their own 30mph maximum this week, which led the health authority to take most of its ambulances off the road until the matter had been solved.

Coal 'is future car fuel'

By Our Motoring Correspondent

A quarter of all cars will be powered by methanol, produced from coal, within the next 20 years, according to two of the international motor industry's top scientists.

Dr Ulrich Seiffert, director of research at Volkswagen, West Germany, and his colleague, Dr Peter Walzer, predict that by 2,000 only half of cars will still use petrol. The next largest power source will be methanol, then diesel, liquefied petroleum gas and alcohol derived from plants.

However, they say that the energy consumption and efficiency of batteries are inadequate for a practical electric car, except for special anti-pollution reasons.

Their car of the future will be made mainly of plastics

Reagan's chemical ban offer doubles as election campaign ploy

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington

President Reagan's new initiative to outlaw chemical weapons worldwide is an attempt in part by the White House to capture the political high ground in the debate on arms control which has become one of the main issues of the US election campaign.

Mr Reagan has come under strong pressure since the campaign got under way to show progress on arms control, particularly since the Soviet Union decided at the end of last year to break off talks in Geneva on Strategic and Medium-range nuclear weapons.

All three Democratic candidates have been strongly critical of the Reagan Administration's arms control record.

Mr Reagan's announcement at a White House press conference on Wednesday night that Vice-President George Bush will submit a draft treaty before the end of this month to the UN Committee on Disarmament in Geneva, proposing a global ban on chemical weapons, represents an effort by the Adminstration to make progress in an area where the Soviet Union has indicated that movement might be possible.

The Soviet Union put its own draft treaty on chemical weapons before the UN committee some time ago and the Soviet leader, Mr Konstantin Chernenko, has indicated he is prepared to offer some concessions to facilitate an accord.

In a statement at the opening of the press conference, Mr Reagan linked his new proposal with the failure so far of his other arms control initiatives to produce agreements with the Soviet Union.

The draft treaty, which was first revealed by Mr George Shultz the Secretary of State, at January's conference in Stockholm on security in Europe, calls for a total ban on the production and stockpiling of chemical weapons. It also contains far-reaching verification procedures for on-site inspections on demand.

Apart from the domestic political considerations, the President's initiative was also prompted by growing evidence that such weapons are being used in Afghanistan, South-East Asia and in the war between Iraq and Iran.

No new chemical weapons have been made in the US since the Nixon administration placed a moratorium on production in 1969.

At his press conference, the twenty-third of his presidency, Mr Reagan repeatedly criticized Congress for its role on such issues as El Salvador, Lebanon, the War Powers Act and for the "sleaze factor" charges which are being directed against his appointees, notably Mr Edwin Meese, the presidential counsellor.

Admitting that the United States had lost some credibility because of the withdrawal of its forces from Lebanon, he said Congress should "take some responsibility for this" because the fierce debate which took place on Capitol Hill had undermined his Administration's diplomatic efforts in Lebanon.

● MOSCOW: President Reagan's call for worldwide ban on chemical weapons was dismissed here as "nothing short of a propoganda trick". Tass said the White House would use Mr Reagan's initiative to "camouflage and justify a speedy build-up of its own chemical arms arsenal".

He had put forward "patently unacceptable condition for verification".

US uses veto to defeat condemnation of rebels

From Zoriana Pysariwsky, New York

The United States has used its veto to defeat a resolution in the United Nations Security Council that condemned the recent mining of Nicaraguan ports by American-backed rebels.

Nicaragua went to the council last week with charges that the United States was promoting terrorist acts against its economic and military installations. It said a US warship had been seen off the Nicaraguan coast at about the same time that a Soviet oil tanker struck a mine in Puerto Sandino on March 20.

For all the vehemence in Nicaraguan statements during the council debate, the draft resolution was diluted to gain the widest possible acceptance. In provoking an American veto, leaving the United States isolated, it allowed the Nicaraguans to prove a point and receive at least diplomatic compensation for the 11 mine explosions that have been reported in the past 40 days.

Thirteen other countries supported the draft, while Britain abstained. Both Britain and the United States found the draft flawed in failing to address the broader question of violence in all of Central America.

Sir John Thomson, the British representative, expressed opposition to the mining of Nicaraguan ports and deplored any threat to freedom of navigation. But he said that the draft lacked balance in omitting provisions related to economic and social development in Central America, a central theme of the Contadora group of peacemakers in the region.

The efforts of the Contadora group were applauded throughout the four-day debate, but beyond presenting 21 goals for Central America the group has had little success in its mission.

New Honduras chief, page 7

Double agent accused of double cross

From Our Own Correspondent Washington

A former US Army counterintelligence specialist has been arrested on charges of selling to the Soviet Union information about an American double agent operation aimed at penetrating the KGB.

Mr Richard Craig Smith, aged 40, of Bellevue, Washington State, was arrested at Dulles airport on Wednesday by FBI agents as he arrived in Washington.

Mr Smith, who worked for the Army's Intelligence and Security Command from 1973 to 1980, was charged with transmitting national defence information.

It is alleged that Smith met Mr V. Ktor Okunev at the Soviet commercial compound in Tokyo in November 1982 and transferred classified information concerning Royal Miter, an American Army intelligence and secutity command double agent operation.



Making waves: The Soviet nuclear powered cruiser Kirov heading south off the Norwegian coast.

Soviet exercises leave West in disarray

By Rodney Cowton, Defence Correspondent

The confusion which Nato has been thrown into by the emergence this week of the largest ever Russian deployment of naval forces to the west of Norway, was reflected in conflicting statements by Nato's top naval commander and Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for Defence.

On Wednesday evening, while on a ceremonial visit to alliance forces at Wilhelmshaven in West Germany, Admiral Wesley McDonald, Supreme Allied Commander Atlantic, said that Nato had been "startled but not shaken" by the Russian build-up.

When that was put to Mr Heseltine in London he said: "I do not think one wants to take such a critical view. Nato was aware of what was happening and the broad situation was understood by us." He denied that there had been any slowness in passing intelligence reports from Nato's Eastern Atlantic headquarters at Northwood in Middlesex to Admiral McDonald's headquarters at Norfolk, Virginia.

Admiral McDonald said that he had been aware that an unusually large number of Soviet ships were leaving port towards the end of last month.

However, two Nato ships which had been in Wilhelmshaven for an historic change of command, which sees the Standing Naval Force Atlantic commanded for the first time by a West German, had to leave the ceremony to increase the Nato presence off Norway.

Nato sources said yesterday that the Russian exercise appeared to be in its final stages. Most units taking part were thought to be on their way home.

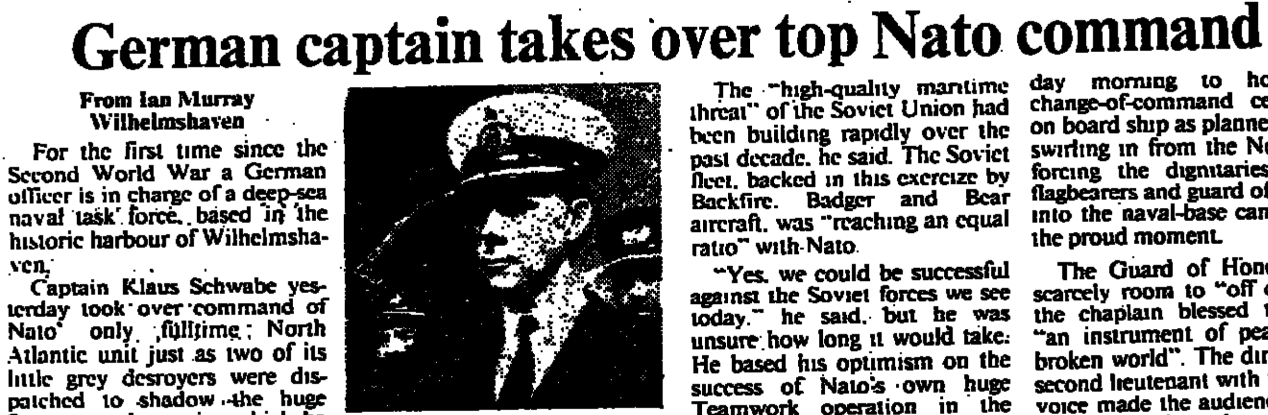
About 50 fighting ships, including about 20 submarines, are thought to have joined in the exercise.

Apart from being a demonstration of the Russians' ability to mount major forces in the crucial area between Norway and the Greenland, Iceland, Faeroes gap, the exercise is seen in the West as a kind of riposte to the celebrations of Nato's thirty-fifth anniversary, which occurred on Wednesday.

German captain takes over top Nato command

From Ian Murray Wilhelmshaven

For the first time since the Second World War a German officer is in charge of a deep-sea naval task force, based in the historic harbour of Wilhelmshaven.



Captain Schwabe: A first for West Germany

Captain Klaus Schwabe yesterday took over command of Nato only fulltime North Atlantic unit just as two of its little grey desroyers were dispatched to shadow the huge Soviet naval exercize which ha been building up in the North Norwegian Sea over the past week.

And Admiral Weley McDonald, who had stayed so silent when he commanded the Anerican invasion of Grenada last October, made the most of the change in command by firing a warning shot across the bows of Nato Defence Ministers who are trying to steer as economical a course a possible.

The admiral, who is Supreme Allied Commander Atlantic, confessed that he had been "startled but not shaken" by the impressive speed and competence of the Soviet build-up.

The "high-quality maritime threat" of the Soviet Union had been building rapidly over the past decade, he said. The Soviet fleet, backed in this exercize by Backfire, Badger and Bear aircraft, was "reaching an equal ratio" with Nato.

"Yes, we could be successful against the Soviet forces we see today," he said, but he was unsure how long it would take. He based his optimism on the success of Nato's own huge Teamwork operation in the same waters just a fortnight before the Russians.

Dr Manfred Wörner, the West German Defence Minister, showed deep pride that after 14 years of close integration in Standing Naval Force Atlantic, a fellow countrymen was to be given command for the regular one-year term.

It proved impossible yesterday morning to hold the change-of-command ceremony on board ship as planned. Mists swirling in from the North Sea forcing the dignitaries, band, flagbearers and guard of honour into the naval-base canteen for the proud moment.

The Guard of Honour had scarcely room to "off caps" as the chaplain blessed them as "an instrument of peace in a broken world". The diminutive second lieutenant with the large voice made the audience wince as he crashed out his orders to the guard.

The men of the Dutch ship Kortenaer had been planning a party the previous evening and had invited 50 girls along. In a true gesture of Nato solidarity they handed over their party, complete with the girls, to the crew of HMS Euryalus as they sailed off to do their duty.

Space trio loosen up with yoga

Moscow (AP) – India's first spaceman and his two Soviet colleagues on board the Salyut 7 station practiced yoga and other medical experiments in their first full day in orbit yesterday, Tass reported.

Rakesh Sharma, aged 35, mission commander Yuri Malyshev and crew member Gennadi Strekalov used special collars in the experiments, designed to reduce the flow of blood towards the head due to weightlessness.

Two of the three other cosmonauts on Salyet 7 since February 9 assisted.

Sharma and his two colleagues will return to Earth on April 10 on Soyuz 10, the spacecraft that took the first trio up. Soyuz 11 which took them aloft on Wednesday will stay attached to the Salyut.

Executions in two stakes

Starke, Florida (Reuter) – Two convicted killers were electrocuted yesterday in the United States. Florida executed Arthur Goode, aged 30, sex murderer of a nine-year-old-boy, who said he would kill again if released.

Elmo Sonnier, aged 35, died in Louisiana state prison at Angola for shooting two teenagers in a lovers' lane in November, 1977.

Micro Koran

Bangkok (AP) A Muslim Thai businessman unveiled what he says is the world's first computer containing the full text of the Koran. Its 2,000-plus pages are all neatly stored in five computer discs and available at the push of a button.

China service

Peking (AFP) – China is to begin producing table tennis robots which can serve fast drives, loops, spins and drop shots close to the net at the rate of 25 to 90 a minute. Five trial models got top player's approval.

Life begins . . .

Reggio Calabria (Reuter) – A 100-year-old woman has been elected to the public health board of the southern Italian town of Taurianova. "I mean to carry out my duties as actively as possible", said Signora Maria Rosa Toscano, a Socialist, accepting the job with enthusiasm.

Union officials clash with workers as Lorraine steelmen go on rampage

From Diana Geddes, Paris

Worker was pitted against worker early yesterday as members of the Communist-led CGT union intervened in the steel town of Longwy, in Lorraine, to try to stop violentce by a group of young demonstrators who went on the rampage in protest against the Government's plans for restructuring the steel industry.

After a relatively peaceful demonstration by about 25,000 people in Longwy on Wednesday afternoon, a couple of hundred steel workers started trying to provoke a clash with the police, throwing stones, steel balls, petrol bombs and bottles of acid. They set up barricades of burning tyres across the street, broke a bank's windows and set fire to a large house belonging to the Usinor steel company.

The beautiful house, which used to belong to one of the great Lorraine ironmasters of the last century, was burnt to the ground. Firemen were prevented from reaching the fire by barricades set up by the masked demonstrators.

Mlle Liliane Manque, the caretaker and only person living in the building, fled after being promised that her three-room flat on the second floor would not be touched. All her belongings, save a few clothes and personal effects, were destroyed.

The police did not intervene until 2 am yesterday, when they charged a small hard-care of demonstrators, using tear gas and anti-riot grenades. Several people on both sides were injured, including a young steel worker whose hand was blown off as he was trying to lob an unexploded grenade back at the police.

The violence was brought to an end after about 50 CGT militants and officials, armed with iron bars and pick-axe handles, forced the demonstrators to stop their action. "You are playing into the hands of our enemies," the officials said.

More than 20 people were held by the police.

Echoing the words of M Georges Marchais, leader of the Communist Party, M Henri Krasucki, secretary of the CGT, said yesterday that the Government had promised an industrial policy of "development, renaissance and reconquest of the domestic market... and the reverse is being done, not only in steel, but in a whole series of other sectors".

He called on workers to bring their full weight to bear on this "unacceptable" situation by mass union action on a united front.

The Communist Mayor of Ottange, an iron-mining town in Lorraine, resigned from the party yesterday in protest against its continued participation in a government which, be maintained, was carrying out right-wing policies by dismantling the steel industry and making workers redundant.

Mr Laurent Fabius, Minister of Industry and Research and now head of the new "superministry" of industrial redeployment just formed by President Mitterrand, announced in Parliament yesterday that Lorraine would soon receive 500m francs (£43m) from the special fund which the Government was setting up to help to bring new industries and jobs to the hardest-hit areas.

M Fabius said he would be meeting union representatives, employers and politicians from Lorraine early next week. Lorraine was regarded as a national priority; no effort would be spared in the Government's attempts to ensure the success of its reconstruction and development plans for the region.

M Pierre Mauroy, the Prime Minister, announced that negotiations were under way with Renault, the Compagnie Générale d'Electricité, Rhône-poulenc and Matra with a view to their setting up enterprises in the 14 new "industrial conversion zones", with priority being given to Lorraine.

Companies creating new jobs or enterprises in the zones will be eligible for substantial tax benefits.

Fishermen blockade French ships

A strike by French seamen for early retirement has gathered momentum, with 11 French vessels blockaded in Dunkirk and Le Havre, trade union sources said.

The CGT and CFDT unions called on Tuesday for seamen to delay all French vessels from leaving ports by 72 hours.

Cross-channel ferries have so far not been affected by the strike, but a date for a one-day strike by French seament on ferries will shortly be fixed, a CGT spokesman said.



A striker who tried to stop a car lies crushed under its wheel. His condition was later described as stable.

Strikers threaten lifeblood of Las Vegas

From Ivor Davis
Los Angeles

These are hard times for Las Vegas hotels and casinos. Badly hit by the booming east coast gambling resort of Atlantic City, Las Vegas is now gripped by a huge strike that began on Sunday and has so far led to more than 100 arrests and violence.

On Wednesday one picket was seriously injured outside Caesar's Palace Hotel when he was crushed by a car he tried to stop. Another man was reported to have been caught carrying three light bulbs filled with petrol.

So far all the 29 hotels affected by the strike, including some of the most famous in the world such as the MGM Grand, Caesar's Palace, the Flamingo and the Las Vegas Hilton, have stayed open, but barely, and management is doing essential jobs.

Some 17,000 hotel and casino workers went on strike on Sunday night and began picketing the hotels. On strike are three unions whose members include waiters, waitresses, bellboys, porters, musicians, stagehands and cooks. They are striking for a 5 per cent increase in wages and other benefits over the next four years.

The violence increased amid management denials that the strike was not affecting business. However some hotels have dropped room and food prices to record lows. Caesar's Palace cut its rates from $95 (£65) $35 (£24) the Flamingo and Hilton reduced all rooms by 30 per cent.

Yesterday, unions complained that police were ill-treating pickets and they demanded that Governor Richard Bryan of Nevada ordered the National Guard send in troops to protect the pickets. However, not everyone is distraught at the violence and strikes. One hotel guest said: "The drinks are stronger – they're using makeshift bartenders and the drinks are great."

E Berlin rules out return of migrants

From Michael Binyon
Bonn

East Germany has given an official warning to its citizens that anyone who emigrates will never be allowed to return. The statement, published by the state news agency, ADN, is seen as an attempt to curb the flood of applications to emigrate to West Germany.

So far this year about 15,000 people have left for the West – more than at any time since the building of the Berlin Wall in 1961.

West German officials believe that the exodus is an attempt by the authorities to rid the country of malcontents and potential trouble-makers, but the East Germans have now become worried that too many are seizing the opportunity to leave.

The agency said that many former East German citizens had asked to go back in recent months. "Responsible sources stated that such an appeal, although understandable, cannot be granted."

The eight-line statement is the first official news published in East Germany about the present exodus. It comes at a time when there is speculation here that East Berlin may allow the remaining East Germans still in the West German embassy in Prague to leave for the West, provided that they return to East Germany first, but that no one else who seeks refuge in a Western embassy will be allowed to leave.

The mass circulation West German daily *Bild Zeitung* said yesterday that Herr Erich Honecker, the East German leader, had decided that the 35 refugees in the Prague embassy would be allowed to go but only after they had waited in East Germany longer than the niece and family of Herr Willi Stoph.

Her Philipp Jenninger, Chancellor Helmut Kohl's state secretary responsible for relations with East Germany, was quoted as saying that theirs was the last flight via an embassy.

The East Germans probably wanted to settle the issue before yesterday's meeting between Herr Kohl and Günter Mittag, the senior East German politburo member responsible for economics who has been visiting Hannover.

The two men were due to meet last year, but Herr Kohl cancelled the talks after a West German died from a heart attack during questioning at an East German border checkpoint.

Herr Mittag had talks yesterday with Otto Graf Lambsdorff, the West German Economic Minister.

Meanwhile West Berliners with friends in the East reported yesterday that the East German authorities had arrested a number of people who visited the West German mission in East Berlin to inquire about emigrating.

Colonel is Guinea's President

From Susan MacDonald
Dakar

The new President of Guinea was named officially yesterday as Colonel Lansana Conté, who is thought to have led the military coup which overthrew the old regime for the late President Sékou Touré just three days after his burial.

The Prime Minister is named as Colonel Diarra Traore and the Minister of Foreign Affairs as Captain Massini Tour3. Six civilians and one woman are among the Government's list of 31 ministers and two Secretaries of State.

One Minister in the old regime has managed to retain his post. He is the Minister of Health, Dr Mohamad Kaba Bah.

It is understood that the new Minister of Energy, M. Abraham Kabaisan Keita was only released from prison on Tuesday when the military seized power.

Allies protest at air corridor harassment

From Our Own Correspondent

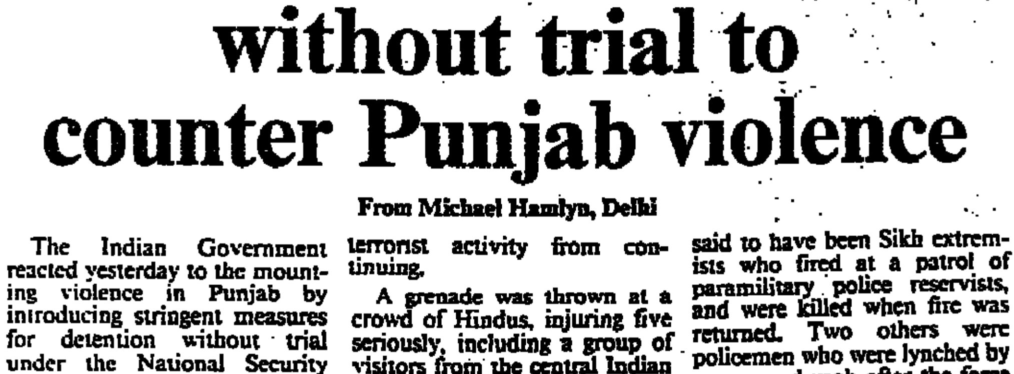
West Germany is following with close concern the protests by the three Western allies over alleged Soviet harassment of passenger aircraft in the air corridors to Belin, but fears that the Russians may be attempting to put new pressure on West Berlin appear ungrounded so far.

A British spokesman for the three allied powers, who alone are allowed to operate flights to West Berlin, has confirmed that on several occasions recently the Russians have asked Western planes to fly above the normal 10,000 ft ceiling in the three air corridors to avoid Soviet military manoeuvres.

He would not say when or how the protests were delivered, but a West Berlin newspapers said that Britain, France and the United States had summoned the Soviet ambassadors in their countries to express their "dissatisfaction" at the requests to change altitude.

The spokesman said that there had been no danger to Western planes, nor had airlines had to alter their timetables. It has been confirmed, however, that there have been several brushes with Soviet military aircraft in the corridors

The Russians, who have the right to fly in the corridors above East Germany, give advance notice to the safety centre of manoeuvres necessitating a change of altitude by Western planes.



Delhi introduces detention without trial to counter Punjab violence

From Michael Hamlyn, Delhi

The Indian Government reacted yesterday to the mounting violence in Punjab by introducing stringent measures for detention without trial under the National Security Act.

The new regulation permits the detention without trial of suspected terrorists for up to six months. Detainees do not have to be brought before a judge within that time either.

The state has already been declared a disturbed area, thereby giving police at a low level the right to open fire.

However, the round-the-clock curfew in Amritsar, which has lasted for 72 hours and dusk-to-dawn curfews in the three other main towns of Patiala, Ludhiana and Jullundur, have failed to prevent terrorist activity from continuing.

A grenade was thrown at a crowd of Hindus, injuring five seriously, including a group of visitors from the central Indian state of Madhya Pradesh. The five were taken to hospital in Ludhiana.

Later yesterday an autorickshaw driver was shot and he and his vehicle carried off in a lorry from a village. His attackers threw him out 40 miles away.

However, nothing in the past two days has matched the spasm of violence set off by the asassination earlier this week of two prominent Hindu politicians. Mournig crowds then clashed with the police and about a dozen people died.

At least three of them were said to have been Sikh extremists who fired at a patrol of paramilitary police reservists, and were killed when fire was returned. Two others were policemen who were lynched by an enraged mob after the force had opened fire on rioters.

Relations between the Sikh party conducting the agitation and the Government have taken a sharp turn for the worse since hopeful moves last weekend. Then, this week's proposed series of demonstrations was abandoned after the Government said that it was prepared to consider amending article 25 of the constitution which mentions Sikhs together with Jains and Buddhists as covered by the word "Hindu".

The Minister for Home Affairs, Mr P C Sethi, has said that he is not promising to amend the constitution, merely to examine it. The Sikh extremists, inspired by the messianic fervour of Sant Jarnail Singh Bhindranwale, have increased, rather than reduced their activity.

The government is also under severe attak in the Lok Sabha, the lower house of Parliament, for its handling of the situation in Punjab. In particular the Bharatiya Jantata Party, to which the assassinated politicians belonged have been highly critical.

The party's leader, Mr Atal Behari Vajpayee, told the Lok Sabha that the Govenment has "surrendered tamely" over Article 25, without taking the Opposition into its confidence.

The Sikh violence has already begun to spill into other states. The Hindus of neighbouring Haryana have reacted violently against Sikhs in their midst following attacks on Hindus in Punjab. In Delhi, too, Sikh death squads have been active.

Jurists condemn 'tragedy of errors' in Sri Lanka

From Alan McGregor, Geneva

Events in Sri Lanka are described as "a mounting tragedy of errors" in a report by Mr Paul Sieghart issued by the International Commission of Jurists and its British national section, Justice.

Mr Sieghart, chairman of the Justice executive committee, had "frank discussions" with President Jayewardene, ministers and other leading figures, including the Chief Justice. His conclusion is that ethnic tensions have led to "a steadily deteriorating situation which threatens Sri Lanka's traditions of tolerance and respect for human rights".

The report says that emergency regulation 15A (permitting secret burial without an inquest of people who die in custody) is a "dangerous and obnoxious measure which should be revoked immediately".

Also, there must be full, independent judicial inquiries into last year's disturbances, in particular the massacres in Melikada prison. There should also be sustained government support for "education for tolerance".

● BERNE: Nearly 1,000 Tamil refugees from Sri Lanka staged a protest before the Swiss Parliament yesterday and handed in a petition demanding they be granted asylum in Switzerland. Only one of them has so far been granted asylum (AP reports).

One man the Prince will not be meeting

From Our Foreign Staff

One islander Prince Andrew is not meeting during the course of his two-day visit to St Helena in the South Atlantic ending today is a male prisoner in the tiny island prison at Jamestown, the capital. He is serving a life sentence for the murder of a policeman two years ago.

After the rejection of his appeal in London against conviction he will be moved to Parkhurst on the Isle of Wight.

However, the island was stunned two months ago by a second case of violent deaths. Before 1981 no murder or other serious crime had occurred on St Helena since the turn of the century. Crime is otherwise unknown on this tiny volcanic outcrop 1,000 miles from the nearest landfall, 2,000 miles from the Falklands.

The St Helena polce force is known affectionately as "The Toys", and its role hitherto has been largely ornamental.

Later this year a more discreet visit will be made to the island by two English barristers and an itinerant judge to hear the second murder case. The victim was a young girl. Her alleged killer is recovering from self-inflicted wounds in the island hospital.

The murder trial two years ago took place in the Supreme Court in Jamestown where the police table-tennis table normally resides in front of the dock.

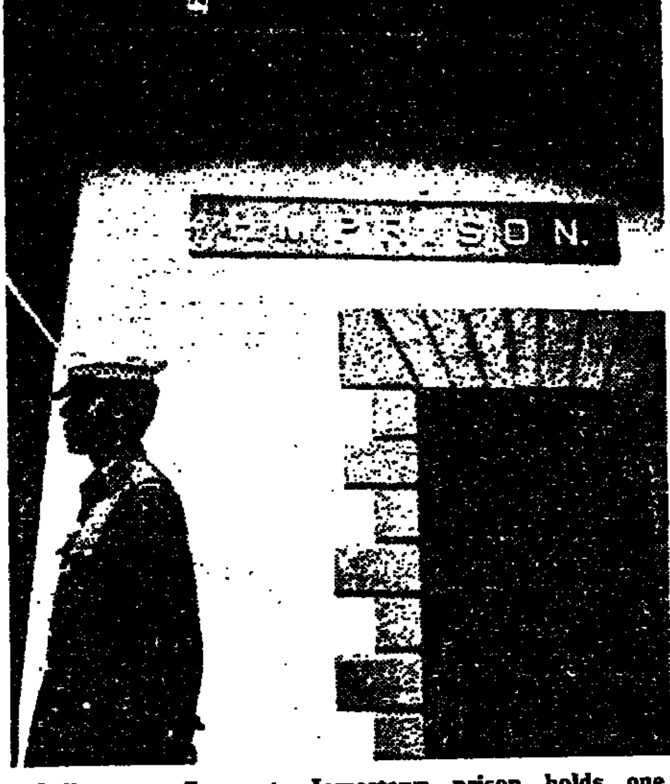
The witty performance of defence counsel Mr Louis Blom-Cooper, QC, on that occasion is now enshrined in island history as the greatest entertainment since the arrival of Napoleon in 1815.

The island authorities ascribe the growth in domestic violence to the influence of Ascension Island, 800 miles to the north, where male St Helenians, or Saints, work for months at a time on construction projects for the expanded RAF Falklands air-bridge garrison. Women are not allowed to work on Ascension.

Jamestown, with its brilliantly painted green, red, white and cream colonial buildings, nestles in a narrow wooded valley between the cliffs, its streets bedecked with flags.

● The photographic exhibition, "The Lives of the Saints", by Rory Coonan and Stuart Mackay, will be opened by Prince Andrew on May 3, at the Commonwealth Institute in London, not May 30, as stated on Wednesday.





Solitary confinement: Jamestown prison holds one prisoner who is serving life for murder.

Philippines may free accused priests

From Keith Dalton Manila

The last government witness in the multiple murder trial of three priests and six church lay workers yesterday completed his testimony and unless there is an out-of-court settlement the controversial trial will not resume for at least another ten days.

Judge Emilio Legaspi, in the central Philippines city of Bacolod gave the prosecution until August 10 to submit evidence substantiating its charge that the nine accused – including an Australian and an Irish missionary – were responsible for the ambush killing of a town mayor and his four aides in March, 1982.

The judge granted a further five days after the prosecution's deadline for the defence to file any motion of objection.

Once the prosecution evidence is tabled, the prosecutor will formally rest his case and then the defence will present its witnesses. Defence lawyers say they are prepared to call 127 people to prove their clients are victims of a "military frame-up."

Father Brian Gore from Australia, Father Niall O'Brien from Ireland and a Filipino priest, Father Vicente Dangan, have been detained in Bacolod's jail for more than ten weeks after spending eight months under house arrest.

Fifteen prosecution witnesses gave evidence throughout seven weeks of bail hearings last year and during the trial

However, an out-of-court settlement could be near. A meeting on Sunday between prosecution and defence lawyers and the Deputy Minister of Justice has raised hopes that the trial might soon come to an abrupt halt with Father Gore and Father O'Brien agreeing to leave the Philippines.

Jobs to be priority for Chile's new team

From Florencia Varas Santiago

The fight against unemployment will take precedence over strict adhesion to orthodox monetarist policy as the principal goal of Chile's latest economics team, appointed on Monday by President Augusto Pinochet.

The Cabinet reshuffle suggests that the military government feels compelled to change its monetarist policies in the face of growing social pressures generated by nearly two million jobless.

It represents a break with the policies of the departing Finance Minister, Señor Carlos Cáceres, who imposed strict measures to cut fiscal spending and control inflation, according to the dictates of the International Monetary Fund.

Señor Modesto Collados, the newly-appointed Economy Minister, who held the post of Housing Minister until Monday and served as public Works Minister from 1964 to 1966 in the Christian Democratic administration of Señor Eduardo Frei, has emphasized that his primary goal will be to cut the 30 per cent unemployment rate to 4 per cent within three years.

The new Finance Minister, Señor Luis Escobar, who was Minister of the Economy from 1961 to 1963 in the right-wing government of Jorge Alessandri, has announced that Chile will cooperate more closely with the efforts of Latin American countries seeking to renegotiate their foreign debts.

Chile will meet the obligations towards payment of its $22bn (£15bn) foreign debt, but it will also seek greater flexibility from the International Monetary Fund.

The new leadership has been received favourably by the industrial sector.

Solidarity trial postponed

From Roger Boyes Warsaw

A Polish court decided yesterday to postpone indefinitely the trial of two seriously ill Solidarity activists, Miss Anna Walentynowicz and Mr Kazimirerz Switon. The judge will decide today when and whether a third dissident, Miss Ewa Tomaszewska, should face trial.

A medical expert who examined the human rights campaigners on Wednesday, told the court in Katowice that Miss Walentynowicz should be transferred from prison to the Warsaw Oncological Institue for treatment of cancer.

He said her trial on charges of organizing a demonstration and resisting arrest, should be made dependant on the development of her disease and the speed of her recovery. Mr Switon should not be put on trial for at least two months because of his illness, the doctor advised. Mr Switon, who has campaigned for free trades unions in Silesia for many years, is believed to be suffering from a cancer-like disease and stomach disorders.

The third defendant, Miss Ewa Tomaszewska, was completely disorientated by her surroundings, suffering from a combination of high fever and diabetes, the doctor said. Her trial is also likely to be postponed, though perhaps for a shorter or at least more tightly defined period.

The three dissidents took part in a demonstration outside the Wujek colliery in Silesia last December when they wanted to lay a plaque commemorating the miners shot and killed by police after the declaration of martial law in the winter of 1981.

Their trial would have been clarification of the somewhat clouded policy of the authorities now. Although the police have stepped up their arrests of political offenders (there are 430 in prison) not many are being brought to trial. Mr Switon and Miss Walentynowicz would have been the best known activists to be tried for more than a year.

Corruption trials worry Nigerians

From Kenneth Mackenzie Lagos

Disquiet is growing in Nigeria over the terms of the decree under which military tribunals are being set up to try members of the former civilian government on corruption charges.

More than 470 former politicians are being held in prisons; they were swept from power when the military overthrew the Government on December 31. Members of the tribunals were sworn in this week, and trials in five Nigerian cities are expected to start next week.

Reasons for disquiet are: a minimum sentence of 21 years imprisonment for those convicted; no appeal; and a judge who will sit with senior officers on a tribunal only to offer advice on legal points: the military men will make all decisions.

The Nigerian Bar Association this week delivered a protest – particularly on the last point – to the military authorities, but received no satisfaction.

The maximum sentence the tribunals can impose is life imprisonment. The military authorities have rejected calls for death sentences; a large section of Nigerian public opinion wants severe punishments for the former politicians.

All the findings and sentences have to be reviewed by the Supreme Military Council, and it can alter sentences. This might alleviate the apparent harshness of the 21-year minimum.

The decree does not state that the trials must be held in public, but they are expected to be. There have been rumours that they will be in secret – presumably because some of the accused may try to defend themselves by making counter-allegations of corruption against the military – but informed sources discount these rumours.

It is not known whether former President Alhaji Shehu Shagari will play any part in the trials, but the former Vice-President, Dr Alex Ekwueme, is expected to be among the accused.

Air chief to lead armed forces in Honduras

Tegucigalpa (Reuter) – The Honduran Air Force Chief, General Walter Lopez, was appointed commander of the armed forces yesterday, a day after his predecessor said General Lopez had ousted him.

The appointment was overwhelmingly approved by Congress but General Lopez will not take over formally until he is sworn in at a date still to be announced.

The former armed forces chief, General Gustavo Alvarez Martinez, said in Costa Rica on Wednesday that General Lopez had ordered his arrest and forced him to leave the country on Saturday.

General Lopez was the only general to survive a big shake-up in the Honduran military announced by President Roberto Suazo Cordova.

General Alvarez, a staunch anti-communist, was considered the most powerful man behind the presidency.



President Suazo Cordova: Military shake-up

General Lopez, aged 43, received most of his military training in the United States and has been described as highly popular within the armed forces.

Meanwhile, Honduras has told the United States that their joint military exercises in Central America will continue despite the shake-up

The Commons investigation on Grenada

Reagan deliberately kept 'lethargic' Howe in dark over invasion

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

A parliamentary investigation into the invasion of Grenada last October by the United States and several Caribbean states concluded yesterday that President Reagan deliberately kept Britain in the dark about his intentions, and it criticized Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, for the Government's "lethargic" approach during the crucial weekend before the invasion on Tuesday, October 25.

The Commons Foreign Affairs Committee, which pieced together a detailed and authoritative account of the events preceding the invasion, concluded on evidence from many of the direct participants that it was not the intention of the United States Government that the United Kingdom should be involved in the military intervention "and that the timing, nature and extent of the information provided to the United Kingdom Government by the United States were consistent with that position".

The committee, whose members visited the Eastern Caribbean during the inquiry and interviewed Sir Paul Scoon, the Governor-General of Grenada, the Prime Ministers of Barbados and Trinidad and Tobago and American and British diplomatic staff, passed no judgment on the merits of the invasion itself or of Britain's non-involvement.

It remarked on a feeling of regret in the area that Britain had not taken part but saw little sign of outright anti-British sentiment, and concluded that Britain's non-participation had avoided serious repercussions on British relations with the majority of other Commonwealth states.

But the report criticized the Government for having insufficiently attuned to the political feelings of Commonwealth states, and says that the evidence given to it by the Foreign Secretary "paints a picture of a British administration reacting passively to the events entirely on the advice received from Washington, which in the event proved to be unreliable advice."

It suggests that the Americans, having been made aware the previous Friday of Britain's doubts about military action, "adjusted" the information given to this country about its intentions accordingly, and that the State Department officials with whoom Britain regularly consulted were not themselves in possession of all the facts







Grenada spotlight: Mr Peter Thomas (top); the late Maurice Bishop (centre); and Sir Paul Scoon

Mr Peter Thomas, Conservative MP for Hendon Sputh, leader of the committee team on its Caribbean visit, told a Westminster press conference that the White House realized that if the invasion was to be successful it had to be done very quickly and as secretly as possible. It realized there was a possibility "that if Britain had been taken into full consultation Britain would have argued against it."

Another committee member, Mr Norman St John-Stevas, the former Conservative Cabinet minister, remarked: "It was an extraordinary way to treat an old and trusted ally."

According to the committee's timetable the Organization of East Caribbean States decided on Friday October 21 to ask for assistance in putting together a multinational force. Britain was told by Mr Tom Adams, Barbadian Prime Minister, of his wish that his country would contribute but a formal request was never received. On Saturday, October 22 President Reagan signed orders to prepare for United States participation.

Visited by the British Deputy High Commissioner in Barbados on the Sunday, Sir Paul Scoon did not ask for help. As was clear from Sir Geoffrey's Commons statement on October 24 that he had no reason to think American intervention was likely, consultations were conducted during the weekend on the understanding that the United States was proceeding "very cautiously."

The committee concluded that given the lack of information from its usual State Department channels, the assurance of consultation before action from Washington, the Deputy High Commissioner's interview with Sir Paul Scoon, Sir Geoffrey a statement on October 24 appeared to have reflected the information then available to the Government and their assessment of the signals which had so far reached London of Mr Reagan's intentions.

However, despite being aware of the OECS decision to launch an invasion and of Mr Adams's request at no point during that weekend did the Government apper to have taken an initiative to ascertain the full intentions of Caribbean leaders or to dissuade them.

The Foreign Secretary's statement to the committee that there was a hesitation to embark on telephone calls on an open line to the Carribbean and that the Government had relied on normal diplomatic channels to convey its point of view was a "somewhat lethargic approach".

House of Commons: 2nd report from the Foreign Affairs Committee; Session 1983-84: Stationery Office, £8.40.

Leading article, page 13

Petra Kelly a victim of her own magnetism

From Our Own Correspondent
Bonn

Her main problem, and one that increasingly led to tension with her parliamentary colleagues, was that she had become too well known. Not only in West Germany but throughout the world the frail, vivacious, charismatic figure of Frau Petra Kelly was the symbol of the Greens.

But the days of power and publicity for this 36-year-old anti-nuclear crusader, who once dreamed of becoming a Dominican nun, now appear to be over. She has been swept away from the leadership of the party she helped to found, replaced by other women who may be as strong in advancing the Green cause but who do not have the magnetism that focused the world's cameras on Petra Kelly.

Her other problem was her zeal. She demanded of herself what she did of society: the impossible. By working for months on end before the elections last year for up to 20 hours a day, leaving only three hours for sleep and virtually no time for any private life, she exhausted a body that was never strong and suffered from circulatory problems.

This was reflected in her mental weariness with the party, her disillusionment that became increasingly evident after a year in the Bundestag. The defection of her close friend and collegue, General Gert Bastian, shook her, but the Green cause was too close for her to contemplate following him.

Petra Kelly's missionay determination to change Western society, industry and defence stems from her having frequently been a stranger to that society and having to battle against adversity. Born in 1947 in Günzburg, West Germany, of a Polish father and a German mother, Petra



Impossible demands: Petra Kelly, voted out by the Greens (Photograph: Peter Dunne).

Lehmann moved to America at the age of 13, when her divorced mother remarried an Irish-American army officer, whose surname she adopted.

In West Germany she had been brought up in a convent, a Protestant girl in disciplined, hard-working Roman Catholic surroundings. In Washington she became active in protests against the Vietnam war, in civil rights and in the heady, idealistic politics of the 1960s.

She was much influenced by Joan Baez and Martin Luther King, and by the principles of non-violent resistence, which has remained her guiding philosophy. She spent two years in the office of Hubert Humphrey, and founded a student group to support Robert Kennedy's presidential campaign.

After gaining a master's degree in Europe she moved to Brussels to work in the European Commission. There she learnt the meaning of discrimination against wowen and stultifying bureaucracy which reinforced her hatred of the impersonal machine "that destroys people's souls".

Inspired to join the West German Social Democratic Party by what she saw as the idealism of Herr Willy Brandt, she left in disgust at the hard-headed pragmatism of his successors. Even now her relations with the Social Democrats are prickly. She passionately denounced Herr Brandt after he had appeared on the platform with her at the big anti-missile rally last November, because he would not commit himself to total opposition to Nato and defence spending.

She joined the Greens to promote causes, not to make parliamentary politics, in which she still has a deep distrust. She is a radical, but something of a romantic who is more at home in inspiring citizens' initiatives, publicizing causes with eye-catching techniques she learnt in America and haranguing her opponents than she is at disciplining herself, her thoughts and her opinions in the interests of party organization and effectiveness.

Her public protests in East Berlin, for which she was deported, her outspoken criticisms of her colleagues and her impetuousness did not make for easy collaboration in the party faction.

Petra Kelly was one of the West German peace movement's most passionate advocates. She travelled all over the country to rally the opposition to the Nato missiles. She drew up the so-called Krefeld Appeal in 1980 which gathered two million signatures against deployment.

The party's moment of triumph, its election to Parliament, was also a moment of disillusion for Petra Kelly. She does not believe the Greens can exist in the Bundestag without making the compromises which she fears will eventually alienate them from the issues and their principles.

She is, as the Social Democratic Party manager justly but unkindly decribed her, "neurotically hectic". Her image is that of the protester, the small voice of humanity (accompainied as usual by her devoted 78-year-old grandmother), standing up against the machinations of big business, big politics, big states.

She looked striking on that first day in Parliament, sitting three seats along from Chancellor Helmut Kohl. But she wished, as she said later, that she were somewhere else, miles away.

Indonesia recalls envoy from Port Moresby

From Tony Duboudin, Melbourne

The Indonesian defence attaché in Port Moresby has been recalled after the incursion last week by two Indonesian aircraft into Papua New Guinea.

Papua New Guinea had threatened to expel the attaché, but Mr Imam Soepomo, the Indonesian Ambassador, said that the attaché would leave shortly.

Earlier Papua New Guinea said it had not received a direct explanation of all the matters it had raised in a diplomatic protest note over the incident.

Australian Associated Press said in a report from Jakarta, that Indonesia denied to Port Moresby that two of its jets had violated Papua New Guinea air space.

The border between Papua New Guinea and Indonesia has been a source of irritation for some time with reports of Indonesian troops crossing into Papua New Guinea in pursuit of the OPM (Free West Papua Movement) guerrillas.

In the latest incident two aircraft overflew the border post at Green River about 10 miles inside Papua New Guinea on March 27.

In an unrelated incident involving the OPM, Mr Michael Somare, the Papua Prime Minister, has said that he would not allow a ransom for the release of a Swiss pilot who is a hostage of the Irian Jaya rebels to be handed over on Papua New Guinea soil.

Mr Werner Wyder, a Roman Catholic mission pilot, and an Irian Jaya teacher were captured by OPM guerrillas at an Indonesian border post on March 26.

Papua New Guinea has been placed in an awkward position by the kidnapping as it does not recognize the OPM and is anxious not to see relations with Jakarta deteriorate.

Vietnamese accuse China and Thailand

Bangkok (Reuter) – Vietnam, under threat from Chinese artillery in the north and struggling to crush Khmer Rouge guerrillas in Kampuchea, has accused Bangkok and Peking of collusion to save the guerrillas.

Hanoi said that Chinese shelling of Vietnam's northern provinces on Monday, while some of its troops were tied down fighting the guerrillas on the Thai-Kampuchean border, was "clearly a calculated act aimed at putting pressure on Vietnam from two sides".

A Foreign Ministry statement quoted by the Vietnam news agency said that Vietnamese troops on the China-Vietnam border were in a state of high alert.

Thai border troops were reported yesterday to be continuing to mop up remnants of 300 to 500 Vietnamese troops which, Bangkok said, intruded up to three miles into Thailand 13 days ago.

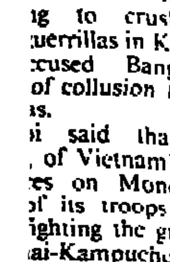
Mr Prem Tinsulanonda, the Thai Prime Minister, said on Wednesday that despite Hanoi's denial of the incurson the bodies of scores of Vietnamese soldiers and the remains of two Vietnamese tanks had been found on Thai territory.

Thailand protested to the United Nations yesterday over the March 25 Vietnamese thrust which, it said, involved an attack on a UN-aided refugee camp in Kampuchea

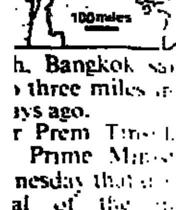
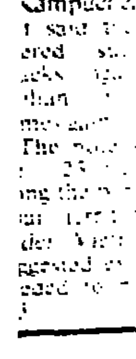
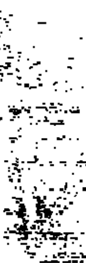
The protest, published by the Foreign Ministry, said that Hanoi troops attacked "innocent Kampuchean women, children and old people" at a camp built with UN assistance in Kampuchea.

It said that Thailand "considered such indiscriminate attacks against Kampuchean civilian encampments . . . crimes gainst humanity".

The note said that many of the 230,000 Kampucheans along the border would flee into Thai territory if they came under Vietnamese attack and suggested extra funds might be needed to provide basic relief aid.



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THEY BELIEVE IN FREE SPEECH. BUT NOT FAIR HEARINGS.

"The Probation Service is not a part of local government and certainly has not been taken into consideration on the abolition question. Yet if the proposals go ahead we are clearly going to suffer gratuitous harm and cost for no ostensible benefit whatever." (ASSOCIATION OF CHIEF OFFICERS OF PROBATION)

"The prospect of individual Councils preparing structure plans... is appalling." (HOUSE BUILDERS FEDERATION)

"A recipe for delay, indecision, confusion and waste... the measures which the Government wishes to introduce will make matters worse not better." (TOWN AND COUNTY PLANNING ASSOCIATION)

"The improvements (under the metropolitan county councils) have been dramatic... with great improvements in performance and standards... naive to think that authorities of widely different political outlook will work together." (INSTITUTE OF WASTE MANAGEMENT)

Since publishing its proposals for the abolition of the metropolitan county councils, the Government has received literally thousands of responses. From industry and commerce, professional and academic institutions, the Church, voluntary organisations and numerous individuals.

The majority are highly critical, in part or in whole, of the Government's plans.

Many have demanded that at the very least an inquiry should be held, before such an important constitutional change is enacted.

But the protests, however significant, are falling on deaf ears.

It seems the Government's mind is made up, and that it is determined to get its Bill through Parliament with as little public debate as possible.

BEWARE CONSERVATIVE ESTIMATES.

The 1983 White Paper 'Streamlining the Cities' is the blueprint for abolition. Its architect is Mr. Patrick Jenkin, the Environment Secretary.

Its main platform was that metropolitan county councils were wasteful, unnecessary and should be abolished.

And although Mr. Jenkin originally estimated that savings of up to £120 million a year could be made, no concrete facts or figures to support the claim were produced.

This vagueness was fortuitous for the Environment Secretary, particularly in the light of two damning analyses of the Government's abolition proposals by Coopers and Lybrand Associates, a top independent management and financial consultancy.

They drew the conclusion that "There are unlikely to be any net savings as a result of the Government's proposed changes, and there could be significant extra costs... up to £61 million pounds a year."

Now, Mr. Jenkin has changed his tune, by saying: "Expenditure issues are not central to the case for abolition."

SOMETHING TO SHOUT ABOUT.

Against this conflict between Government claims and independent assessment, voices of disquiet are being raised higher and higher.

The scale of concern is demonstrated by the wide cross section of respondents to the White Paper. Including the Probation Service, the Countryside Commission, Chambers of Commerce, the Civic Trust, the Arts Council, the National Union of Ratepayers and the Law Society.

"The proposals in the White Paper are ill thought out, uncosted and unworkable. If implemented they would quickly lead to a chaotic fragmentation of services, with corresponding reduction in quality." (UNITED KINGDOM ASSOCIATION OF PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS)

"...in the White Paper neither the case for reorganisation nor the merits of the particular proposals put forward are adequately substantiated. Indeed, by any objective judgement, the White Paper falls short of the standards to be expected of a document intended to stimulate and inform public debate on the constitutional, administrative and economic implications of a major change in the structure of Government as it operates in the main cities." (SCHOOL FOR ADVANCED URBAN STUDIES, UNIVERSITY OF BRISTOL)

"The service hopes that the impressive progress in the field of consumer protection made by the Metropolitan Counties is not lost, but developed." (NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAUX)

"Our support for the proposed abolition is given on the assumption that it will lead to substantial savings." (CBI)

"We argue that the proposed structure will lead to less effective management than at present, and will lead to higher rather than lower costs... we have no doubt that efficiency will suffer." (THE CHARTERED INSTITUTE OF PUBLIC FINANCE AND ACCOUNTANCY)

"Before any fundamental alterations are embarked upon, evidence should be produced to show that these hopes (savings and better value for money) have every chance of being realised in the future. The onus is on the Government to prove that its re-organisation plans will give... ratepayers a better deal." (NATIONAL UNION OF RATEPAYERS ASSOCIATIONS)

Concern is growing in all quarters that re-organisation will lead to a reduction in the level and quality of services.

That costs will escalate dramatically. And that direct responsibility to the electorate for countywide services will be all but eliminated.

Analysis of the Government's plans show these fears to be well founded.

But what may not be so well known, is the willingness of the metropolitan county councils to participate in any full and independent review of local government structure and finance.

The metropolitan county councils have never claimed that the present system is perfect, or that it should be above change. However, they have always sought to provide the greatest possible benefits to the 11 million people they serve.

Which is why an inquiry is essential; before the Government embarks upon a hasty and costly upheaval of local government.

A view also held by a great many other people.

Unfortunately, it appears that this Government believes people should be seen, but not heard.

ISSUED BY THE METROPOLITAN COUNTY COUNCILS OF GREATER MANCHESTER, MERSEYSIDE, SOUTH YORKSHIRE, TYNE AND WEAR, WEST MIDLANDS AND WEST YORKSHIRE. FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, WRITE TO THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE, GMC, COUNTY HALL, MANCHESTER M60 3HP.

SPECTRUM

Anthony West grew up in the withering glare of the malice of Rebecca West, the mother who spent her lifetime punishing him for the fact that his father steadfastly refused to marry her

A heritage of burning hate



The truth of how things were between my mother and myself was that from the time that I reached the age of puberty, and she came to the point of a final rupture with my father, she was minded to do me what hurt she could, and that she remained set in that determination as long as there was breath in her body to sustain her malice. When I wrote my novel, *Heritage*, 35 years ago I was angry with her. I had lately transplanted myself to the United States to make a fresh start in life, 3,000 miles out of her way, but I had found myself pursued by her animosity even at that distance. I had been doubly offended by the steps she had taken to make it difficult for me to make a career for myself in my new country because she had set about the job of queering my pitch with a blatancy that made it plain that she thought me too much of an idiot to notice what she was about. Soon after my mother had come to the parting of the ways with my father, once it had become clear to her that there were no circumstances in which he would ever think of marrying her, she decided to adopt me. The step was explained to me as a prudential one. Unadopted, I would have to make my way through life producing, whenever I had to give formal proof of my identity, a birth certificate that named both my parents, declared my mother's condition at the time of birth to be that of *spinster*, and so disclosed my bastardy to anyone who saw it: adopted, I would be the possessor of a document recording merely that I was born such and such a date, and that on another, 14 years later, legal process had made me the child of a spinster, Cicely Isabel Fairfield, "also known as Rebecca West", with whom I had no recognized previous connexion. When I grew up, I was told, I would be able to understand how greatly this improved my condition. It was not pointed out to me at the time that this highly symbolic performance also removed my father from my pedigree, in law if not in fact.

My mother married money not long after my adoption went through, and within a year or so of that happy event she felt called upon to inform my father that he need trouble himself no more to provide for me in his will as her husband, Henry Andrews, was making me his heir. My father later asked me if I knew anything of this, and with a certain complacency I told him that I did, and that he wasn't to worry about me. Henry was *really* rich, and as I understood it I was to come into the bulk of his estate when he died. My father looked at me quizzically for an instant after I had said this, and then let the matter drop, observing that if it were really so I ought to be all right. I recalled his words, and the expression that had been on his face when he uttered them, some years later while I was listening to the reading of his will. Under it I was given the right to take such personal souvenirs of him as I might fancy from the contents of his house, and nothing else. This was not, the document went on to say, because he had anything against me, but because he understood that, unlike his other children, I had substantial expectations from another quarter. When I heard that explanation a flash of intuition informed me that my designation as my stepfather's heir had been functional, and that I was not likely to enjoy that status for much longer now that its function had been fulfilled.

My insight was confirmed three years later in the course of a melodramatic scene that was enacted on the front steps of my home in Dorset. Its pretext was an advertisement that had appeared in the two "quality" Sundays on the previous day, in which the publishers of my first novel had announced its forthcoming appearance as one of the titles on their autumn list. Each of the dozen books featured in the advertisement was given the briefest of brief descriptions followed by a snippet of background information about the writer. Of me it



was said that I had promise, and that I had begun work on a biography of my father, H G Wells. On the morning after this atrocity had run on the book pages of the two papers concerned, my stepfather, having proclaimed his coming, drove over from his home near High Wycombe in his Rolls-Royce to bring me an ultimatum. He wouldn't come into the house, he explained when he had arrived, because he didn't want to impose himself on me as a guest until he had let me know what he had come to say. It was consequently from a point about half-way up the front steps that he let me have it.

He was extremely angry with me for having been so thoughtlessly cruel as to allow my publishers to exploit the dormant scandal of my mother's connexion with my father. Its revival had given my mother unimaginable distress. He was prepared to go to any lengths to spare her a repetition of what she had been through in the previous 24 hours. He wanted me to understand that unless I was willing to give him my solemn undertaking never to lend myself to the commercial exploitation of this most private of private matters again he would have to think seriously of changing his will. He reminded me that a considerable sum of money was involved, and begged me to do what he asked. I was taken aback by his proposition, and could only tell him that I couldn't possibly do or say anything that might seem to suggest that I had any reason to be ashamed of being the child of either one of my parents. Henry then turned to my wife, Katherine Church, who was standing beside me, to say, with what affected to be a rueful smile, that he deplored my attitude. He hoped, he added, that she would become his ally in the task of persuading me to modify it; it might make it easier for her to do so if she were to consider what the ultimate consequences of my obduracy would necessarily be – the interest that our two children had in his estate as things were would be extinguished along with mine should my conduct force him to change his will.

Kitty's response to this was to say "Well *really*, Henry!" and to go indoors, turning her back on him. My stepfather lengthened his normally long face considerably, gestured as if to indicate his helplessness in the face of so evident a case of *folie à deux*, told me that he would give me a week to think the matter over, reminded me of the sum that was at risk, and departed. He presently did what he had threatened to do, and that was the end of my expectations.

I was given an even clearer idea of the extent of my mother's passionate desire to do me harm a little while later when I had foolishly involved myself in a sufficiently banal marital difficulty. I fell very hard for a young woman who was as nice as could be, and extremely attractive to me, but who was, literally, a passing stranger. I made a heavy over-investment of emotion in what should never have been more than an episode, and was soon in a fair way to upsetting my apple cart. My mother gave me every assistance in overturning it.



David Levine, New York Review/Books



Anthony West in 1916 with his mother (top left) and caricatured (top right). Above, Dame Rebecca with her husband, Henry, in 1959

As soon as she became aware that my marriage was going through a rough passage, she summoned my wife to London for a lunchtime conference, naming the extremely pleasant, sumptuous and quiet eating room at the Green Park end of the Ritz as their meeting place. When she got there Kitty was surprised to find that my stepfather was one of the party. She was even more surprised when my mother, after commiserating with her briefly, launched into a presentation of the case for an immediate divorce which had the form of a denunciation of myself and all my works. My mother had, it seemed, been living in dread of the very thing that was happening ever since our marriage. She had never thought that it could last. She had always known that I was utterly irresponsible and – yes – unstable. There was an unaccountable streak of something base in my make up that had made me curiously unreliable even as a child. When it came to a divorce Kitty would have to put herself in the hands of someone really good; if there was the slightest vagueness in the terms of the final settlement she would live to regret it. I was shifty about money matters, and could be relied on to get at her through the children if I was given any loophole that would allow me to do so . . .

At that point Kitty objected that it was early days to be talking about divorce. She was far from sure that it need come to that. As she understood things it was commom enough for both men and women who had married young to be overtaken by feelings of sexual restlessness when they felt their middle years closing in on them. She could see that there might be dangers for her in what was happening, but she still felt that far too much was being made of something that was, in her opinion, most unlikely to be the big thing that I was making out of it. She didn't think that there was any chance that it would last. My mother responded to this by exploding with rage. She began by telling Kitty that she was the biggest fool she had ever tried to help out of an appalling situation. I was an utter rotter, and she was an idiot to let me trample all over her. She raised her voice as she launched into a lengthy indictment of my past and present performances.

As she ranted on, conversation ceased at most of the other tables in the room, and the waiters gave up the pretence of attending to their duties in favour of standing and staring. Kitty is at a loss to explain how the two men concerted their action, but the scene came to an abrupt end when my stepfather and the Head Waiter, moving together as if they had rehearsed the procedure a dozen times, each took my mother by an arm close to the elbow, plucked her up out of her seat, and carried her from the room, dangling between them. She continued her vilification of her daughter-in-law and myself until the doors of the room closed behind her.

It would be pleasant if I could say that this episode had relieved my mother's feeling and had required no sequel, but that would not be true. the fact is that my mother was never able to forgive Kitty for being generous and understanding where I was concerned and that the interrupted tirade that was broken off in the Ritz on that memorable occasion was destined to be taken up again, and again, at irregular intervals through the remainder of her life. Each new turn in the melancholy history of my deteriorating relationship with her brought Kitty its fall-out in the form of yet another batch of letters taking up the theme of my vileness and aimed without disguise at extinguishing the last remnants of any residual affection she might have for me. Close to 130 of these letters survive.

The majority are old fashioned letters of the kind that people used to write. They are written on both sides of as many as six sheets of paper, and their texts can run to better than 500 words to a side. Some of them contain more than 6,000 words. Of the archive as a whole my ex-wife says that it constitutes a fascinating involuntary self-portrait of someone who was treacherous and dishonest, and whose leading passions were money, malice, and meddling. I can agree with that, but for me the pitiful and extraordinary thing about it is that it is *typical*.

There are at least a dozen similar archives in various hands in England and America, and there may be several more. They show the same delight in disseminating spiteful slanders and untruths, and their substance consists of releases of hostility and aggression aimed at specific *bêtes noires* on a private hit list. One of these collections yields a remarkably complete picture of who my mother's hates were and contains a more than adequate explanation for the strength of my feelings.

Taken from the introduction to Anthony West's novel Heritage, *to be published by Secker and Warburg on April 9 price, £8.95.*

© Anthony West, 1984

moreover . . . Miles Kington

"My goodness, sir!" said Lieutenant Harry Rutland. "Just look at all those ships!"

Harry Rutland had been in the Royal Navy for five years, so of course he wasn't used to seeing a lot of ships. What he was looking at now was the Soviet Navy. It covered the sea from horizon to horizon, each ship carrying a proud red flag with the hammer and sickle painted out. They were travelling incognito.

"Keep an eye on the Russkies while I go below", said the Captain, "and be careful with the binoculars. If they go overboard, we have to buy a new pair out of our own money."

Yes, defence cuts were beginning to work.

"But what if something should happen, sir?"

"Don't worry", said the Captain. "We'll know soon enough. We have our own mole, right in the heart of the Soviet Navy."

It was true. The British had planted an agent on the biggest and best of the Russian ships, the People's Destroyer *Andropov*. (Until six months ago she had been called the *Brezhnev* and before that – well, never mind). Basil Kutov had been recruited by the British ten years previously, when he first joined the Russian Navy, and now he had worked his way up until he had become naval chaplain. His post was not very onerous. All he had to do was to chat to the men, persuade them not to pray, take away their religious knick-knacks, that sort of thing.

"Morning, Rev", said a rating.

"Morning", said Basil. Rev was short for revolutionary chaplain, though what on earth they would do if they ever found out how unrevolutionary he was, heaven knew. So did Basil, actually. They would shoot him.

Especially if they knew that he had discovered the secret of the *Andropov*. To all intents and purposes it was an ordinary super-warship, with nuclear missiles, electronic spying equipment and a damn good vodka doubles bar. But Basil had discovered a secret area amidships, off-limits to most of the crew, which had a very different function. It was full of nets, lines and huge freezers.

The *Andropov* wasn't a destroyer at all. The guns were a disguise. It was really a trawler! Yes, the Russians were entering the North Sea not for naval exercises but to clean up the whole stock of fish there!

Now Basil was paying one last visit to the trawling area before he radioed his vital news to London. He bent down and picked up a corner of net – then gasped. Underneath lay a huge pipeline! But you didn't fish with pipelines, did you?

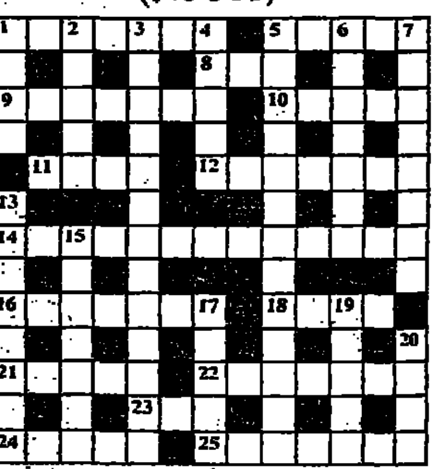
"Yes, it's a pipeline", said a voice behind him. It was the Captain. "Oh, it's all right, Basil; we know all about you and your friends in London. We're quite happy for them to think we're a trawler."

"Then – what *are* we?" said Basil.

"We're an oil supply ship. The reason we keep coming to the North Sea is to steal the oil – we put out huge submarines which tap the oil rig pipes below the surface. Most of Britain's oil will never get on shore. And nor, I'm afraid, will you. OK, men."

Next episode: Basil's life is saved by his bullet-proof Bible.

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 311)



ACROSS
1 Bone vault (7)
5 Lawn plant (5)
8 Winglike structure (3)
9 US estate agent (7)
10 Piece of information (5)
11 African warrior (4)
12 Rough cider (7)
14 Distinguished between (13)
16 Mark hundredth (7)
18 Deep breath (4)
21 Rocky Mountain state (5)
22 Give life to (7)
23 Adult males (3)
24 Poke gently (5)
25 Week's third day (7)

DOWN
1 Boat propellers (4)
2 Normal chaos (5)
3 Swallows and Amazons author (6,7)
4 Sail spars (5)
5 Biblical pigs (8,5)
6 Try (7)
7 Curly-tailed Spitzes (8)
13 Assumption (8)
15 Ship's waiter (7)
17 Huge (5)
19 Secreting organ (5)
20 True (4)

SOLUTION TO No 310
ACROSS: 1 Punnet 5 Bylaws 8 Eve 9 Sprain 10 Spoilt 11 Fret 12 Ramequin 14 Bouillabaisse 17 Hedgehop 19 Kite 21 Mayhem 23 Italic 24 Ass 25 Slogan 26 Middle
DOWN: 2 Upper 3 Near thing 4 Tendril 5 Besom 6 Loo 7 Willies 13 Quicksand 15 Overall 16 Baptism 18 Human 20 Trill 22 Hog

FRIDAY PAGE

Trapped on all sides

Budget tax changes put about two pounds more in pay packets, but the effect of this on the poor in Britain is not so clear cut. **Sarah Hogg** disentangles the argument between the Chancellor and his critics

The Budget tax cuts are coming into effect, adding about £2 a week to average take-home pay. But a bitter argument has broken out about the effect of the Chancellor's chosen tax strategy on Britain's poorest families.

According to Nigel Lawson, the 12½% increase in basic personal tax allowances was the best strategic use of government money, because "low tax thresholds worsen the poverty and unemployment traps, so that there is little if any incentive to find a better job or even any job at all." The poverty lobbies profoundly disagree. They are now pressing hard for real increases in child benefit, arguing that this is the most cost-effective way of reducing poverty. The Government will not announce its benefit decisions until June.

The argument is bedevilled with so many misunderstandings that it is worth starting with a few basics.

● Poverty is not the same thing as "the poverty trap". Well-meaning attempts to reduce poverty by increasing the range of means-tested benefits available to poor families, such as the family income supplement, have actually helped to deepen the "traps".

● The "poverty trap" is caused by the overlap of such means-tested benefits and the tax system, which make it hard for the low-paid to earn their way to a higher standard of living. For example, family income supplement (FIS), is reduced by 50p for every £1 by which the family's income rises, over quite a wide range of income. The ceiling for FIS is £85.50 for a one-child family, rising to £123.50 for a family with five children. At these income levels, families are - even after the Budget - way into the tax net. So each extra pound earned is further reduced by 30p taken off in tax and 9p in national insurance. Together with FIS, this makes for a "marginal tax rate" on the poor of 89p in the pound. And the problem is compounded by other means-tested benefits such as housing benefit and free school meals.

● The "unemployment trap" is different. It arises from the mix of benefits in cash and kind, based on supplementary benefit, available to people who are out of work, which may make it more worthwhile to stay on the dole than to find a low-paid job. A typical irony of the benefits system is that while the family income supplement helps to deepen the poverty trap, it simultaneously helps to reduce the unemployment trap. Since it is paid only to family breadwinners in work, it helps to make up for the loss of supplementary benefit. And it brings automatic entitlement to other benefits, such as free school meals.

However, there are important similarities between the two "traps". The first is that they are deepest for large families. This is because such families are eligible for bigger benefits, while the breadwinner's take-home pay is totally unaffected by the number of children he has. It is also harder for both parents to work full-time if there are a lot of children - and the benefit system works against part-time working wives.

The second similarity is that both traps are deeper in theory than in real life. This is because most benefits are not automatically withdrawn when the family breadwinner secures a pay rise; FIS orders, for example, run for a full year. By the time they come up for renewal, the income limits for the scheme will probably have been increased. Nor do families claim all the benefits to which they are entitled; successive surveys have shown, for example, that only half of those eligible for FIS actually receive it. And even if they do their sums correctly, surveys suggest that pay increases are rarely turned down because they might result in a cut in benefits.

Among the unemployed, surveys suggest it is family men who are most active in trying to find a new job. Yet they are the ones who face the biggest theoretical disincentive. Statistics for 1981 (the latest available) suggest there were over half a million children living in families with an income below supplementary benefit level. If their parents were the least bit "workshy", they would opt for an easier life on the dole.

But this statistic also illustrates the scale of the problem. And even if they do not influence their behaviour, the two traps are a source of justifiable bitterness to working families. It does not make sense to expect people to work for less than they could expect to receive for doing nothing; nor to impose a higher "marginal tax rate" on low earners than on the highest paid.

A report prepared by the Treasury in 1982 suggested that both problems were increasing. During that year, it calculated, 120,000 families faced a marginal tax rate of over 80 per cent. And over 200,000 families earned so little they would have been better off on the dole.

So what should be done? There are broadly three approaches to filling in the two benefit "traps":

● Reducing the level of means-tested benefits. The Thatcher government did act to widen the gap between incomes in and out of work, first by cutting unemployment benefit, then by making it taxable, and finally by increasing benefits generally by less than the rise in earnings. Though it was possible to argue in the late 1970s that the real level of some benefits was too high, there were clear limits to this approach. It is not much good abolishing the poverty trap simply by increasing poverty.

● Altering the balance of benefits between those which are either means-tested or paid only to those out of work, and those which are paid to all families. The Government also followed this approach. For example, those on unemployment benefit now get only 15p a child more than the basic child benefit (paid to all families). But such reductions have to be combined with real increases in child benefit – otherwise the net result is greater hardship for poor families. And increases in child benefit for all are expensive.

● Reducing the tax burden on poor families. This is the Chancellor's preferred route. The trouble is that the choices here, too, are expensive. Reducing the basic rate of tax may have most impact on the "marginal tax rate" for the poor, but it gives very little cash benefit for those who only pay tax on a small proportion of their income. Hence Mr Lawson's choice of an increase in personal allowances, taking nearly half a million out of tax altogether. The trouble is that they were not all the people suffering worst from the "benefit traps". And even though he restricted the big increases – 12½% – to the basic single and married man's allowance, the total bill was still nearly £2 billion.

If the choice boils down to increasing child benefit or raising tax thresholds, which is the most effective? A fair answer would be that though both have their uses, but both are rather indiscriminate weapons, child benefit is the best bet. An increase in thresholds reduces the overlap between means-tested benefits and the tax system; but it gives most cash benefit to the highest paid. For example, a family man earning £400 a week gained over £5 from the Chancellor's Budget, while the man on £80 a week gained only £2 a week. This is because an increase in thresholds ripples right up through the tax structure; the higher your top rate of tax, the more you stand to gain.

Child benefit gives the same to all families of similar size; it is therefore a much more cost-effective way of helping poor families. It is still not a very precise way of concentrating help.

Not all families are poor; and not all poor people have children. (Only 15% of the unemployed, according to the Chancellor, have children of child benefit age.) But official statistics do suggest poverty is increasingly concentrated among young families.

Last December, the Treasury produced figures showing that a 1p cut in income tax would yield only 35p a week to a two-child family living on half average earnings (about £80). The same sum spent raising tax thresholds would provide an extra 92p a week, or about £1.50 if the increases were concentrated on the two basic allowances, as the Chancellor chose to do. The same sum spent on child benefit would provide an extra £3.90.

If child benefit is the best way to tackle poverty, is it also the best way to fill in the two "traps"? Unless it is raised enough to allow means-tested benefits to be cut, it does not reduce high "marginal tax rates" on the poor. Raising tax thresholds does narrow the range of income over which these apply.

There are some possible compromises between the two approaches. For example, child benefit would be a much more cost-effective weapon if it were made taxable. The gain from this could be used partly to finance real increases in child benefit, and partly to raise the tax threshold – so that those at the bottom of the tax net did not suffer from the change.

It is also argued that the married man's tax allowance should be abolished, and the gain used to finance a big increase in child benefit (it would allow the Government roughly to double the present benefit of £6.50). Although this would lower tax thresholds again, it would also redistribute income from small to large families, among whom the poverty problems were concentrated. If the Chancellor were then to use his spare cash to raise all tax thresholds, he could prevent the benefit being concentrated among the rich by simultaneously narrowing the range over which the basic rate of tax applies. There are plenty of possibilities here for at least one of the Social Services Secretary's new inquiries to consider.



The Poverty Trap

Peter and Pat Baker have five children, ranging from a 10-year-old to a four-month-old baby, Karen. They recently moved to a four-bedroomed council house in Brighton.

Peter is a postman, working a six-day, 43-hour week. His basic pay is about £90 a week gross, leaving him £68 after tax and national insurance. But bonuses and shift allowances boost his gross pay to over £120 a week, plus occasional overtime. This has put him just out of range of family income supplement, which would make him eligible for free school meals. If he earned a little less, he might well find himself a good deal better off.

The Bakers do receive some housing benefit, which reduces their rent by about £15 a week, to £20.53. And Mrs Baker gets £32.50 a week in child benefit. But their weekly food bill comes to £30 or £40, and Pat saves the child benefit for the children's clothes. The Bakers grow and freeze their own vegetables on their allotment, but they find it increasingly hard to balance the books.



Jonathan Player

The Unemployment Trap

Barry Mack has been unemployed since 1982. He used to drive coal delivery lorries for a weekly take-home wage of £48. Now he gets £47.10 in supplementary benefit and the family's rent, electricity and gas are all paid by social security. In addition, Barry's wife Pauline, receives £32.50 in child benefit.

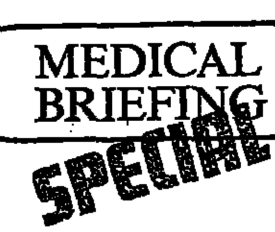
The Macks and their five children live in a three-bedroom house of a large Brighton council estate. Clothes and shoes are a major expense, and the Macks can't affort to carpet the upstairs rooms (though the council does pay for decorating two rooms a year). The last time they went out for the evening was about ten years ago, to see a Cliff Richard film. But the Macks reckon they would be even worse off if Barry was in work. They might lose free school meals for their children, milk tokens for the youngest two and have to pay for much more themselves. "I am not saying I'm not better off on the dole," said Barry. But I do get cheesed off. They have taken away the incentive."

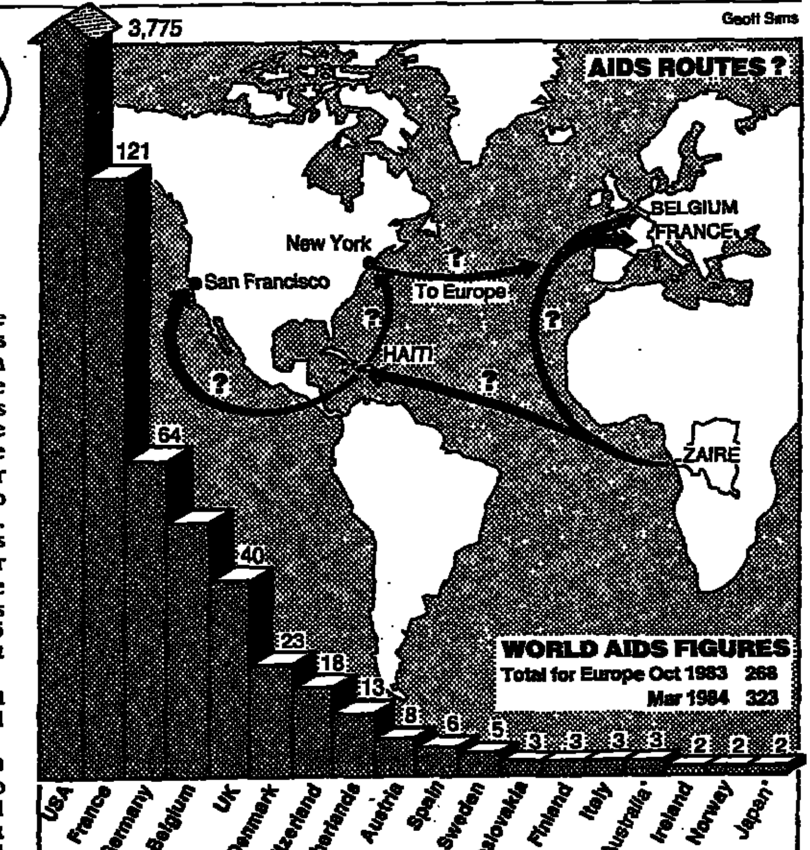
Hot on the trail of the cause and cure of Aids

In the past three years the western world has been stunned by the mysterious epidemic of Aids (acquired immuno-deficiency syndrome). Previously healthy people homosexual men, Haitians, Africans, women and children as well as haemophiliacs, drug-takers and people given blood transfusions, have suddenly found that their natural defence systems have collapsed. Many of the sufferers have died, not from the syndrome itself but from virulent cancers and infections which have invaded their unprotected bodies.

That is the gloomy side of the story. Gradually the international jigsaw of what caused the immune system to disintegrate, and where it first developed, is being pieced together. Scientists are on the brink of naming the culprit virus and there are early signs that the number of new cases being reported in New York – where the syndrome was first recognized in 1981 – are tailing off.

But even if the puzzle is completed tomorrow, it will be years before treatment and prevention will be successful.





Geoff Sims

The US connexion

Up to the end of March there have been 40 reported cases of Aids in the United Kingdom, 22 of whom have died. A breakdown of the figures (see table) broadly reflects the pattern of the United States. The largest group in the US are homosexual or bisexual men (71 per cent) followed by drug addicts who inject themselves (18 per cent), Haitians (4 per cent), haemophiliacs (1 per cent) with the remaining 6 per cent belonging to none of the recognized risk groups. Cases reported in the US numbered 3,775 with 1,642 deaths (43.5 per cent mortality).

A significant link appears to exist between Britain and the United States.

Figures from other European countries are patchy and difficult to interpret. It is not clear whether all reported cases come within the strict definition of the syndrome laid down by epidemiologists at the Centres for Disease Control, Atlanta.

The European picture is further confused by the findings in France and Belgium. The 52 cases of Aids in Belgium and 121 in France do not fall into the risk groups found in other western countries. The vast majority are Africans or have visited Africa and the percentage of women sufferers is much higher 40-45 per cent.

So what is happening in Africa? Official figures are not easily obtained, but Professor Boris Velinirovic, of Vienna University and coordinator of the World Health Organization's Aids unit in Europe, believes there are about 300 cases in Zaire and a number more in surrounding countries – former French colonies.

These revelations leave two conundrums. Are the cases of Aids in Belgium and France following the same pattern as those in America or are they caused by similar, but distinct, entities? If Aids is the same the world over, what links Africa with the US?

UK statistics up to end March 1984

Total no	40
Deaths	22
Men	37
Women	3
Age range	20-57
Risk groups for men:	
Homosexual or bisexual (1 also drug abuser)	33
Haemophiliac	2
Unclassified	2
Women:	
Black African (UK resident)	2
White, possible contact with Aids' carrier	1
Additional complications:	
Kaposi's sarcoma (KS)	15
Pneumocystis carinii (PSC)	13
KS and PSC	2
Other opportunistic infections	10

New or old?

"Shrouded in wild speculation", is the verdict of Professor Boris Velinorovic, coordinator or WHO's European Aids unit, on the current hypotheses on how the syndrome has spread.

The first assumption is that Aids originated in Africa. If so, is it caused by an endemic animal virus which has recently attacked man? Or is it caused by an endemic human virus, previously not recognized because of the wide range of fevers and high mortality in southern Africa, which became noticeable only when it hit people in "developed" countries? Or is it caused by a mutant virus

The next stage of the spread is even more speculative. After independence for Zaire (formerly the Belgian Congo) Haitian medical practitioners, teachers and other professionals were invited as French-speakers to help establish new services. Over the years, about 14,000 Haitians have lived in Zaire and the hypothesis assume that susceptible individuals took Aids back to Haiti after their tour of duty. Yet, of the resident 3,000 Haitians in Zaire at the moment, not one has Aids. Haiti is a favoured holiday island for American homosexuals and many European homosexuals have admitted relationships with US nationals. But taking hypotheses like this one to be definitive can be dangerous – it poses many more questions than it provides the answers.

The viral suspects



Whatever its origins, the pattern of Aids so far suggests that the most likely cause is a virus. The theory is that the virus knocks out those white cells in the blood which are responsible for switching on the body's immune system, the T-helper cells. This renders the victim defenceless against infections and cancers.

Leading the field as the most likely viral culprit is at present a group of viruses known as retroviruses. There are several theoretical reasons for thinking a retrovirus could cause the disease. For example, retroviruses attack T-cells, they can cause Aids-like illnesses in animals, and they have been linked with white blood-cell cancers – leukaemias and lymphomas – in both man and animals.

Two independent research groups, at the Institut Pasteur in Paris and the US National Cancer Institute in Bethesda, Maryland, have now isolated retroviruses from Aids patients.

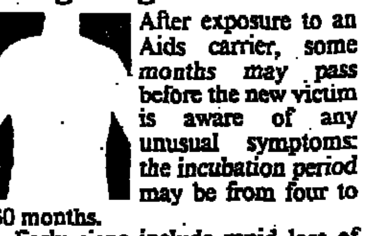
The most recent work from both groups has yet to be published, although it is expected shortly. The French studies, however, are already creating considerable interest. They have isolated retroviruses from three people with what could be an early or mild form of Aids, as well as from eight Aids victims. Their list includes Aids victims from Zaire and Haiti, and sufferers with Kaposi's sarcoma and haemophilia.

It is not certain, yet, how the two lines of research tie together. But both seem to suggest that a retrovirus related to, though distinct from, a retrovirus known as Human T-cell Leukaemia Virus could be linked with Aids. As the name suggests, Human T-cell Leukaemia Virus is thought to cause leukaemias and lymphomas in humans.

Whatever the cause it is clear that Aids passes from person to person only after intimate contact, unless the sufferer is unlucky enough to receive contaminated transfused blood or blood products. Aids is probably transmitted via the semen during sexual intercourse.

Finally, there have been a few cases of Aids in babies born to mothers with the disease, so the virus may also cross the placenta or pass from mother to newborn infant.

Danger signs



After exposure to an Aids carrier, some months may pass before the new victim is aware of any unusual symptoms: the incubation period may be from four to 30 months.

Early signs include rapid loss of weight, night sweats and exhustion. Swollen glands are also associated with the disease. This does not mean that anyone in a high-risk group who suffers from any of these symptoms should panic. Aids affects a tiny percentage of people, and there is usually a straightforward explanation for such symptoms. If in doubt, visit your local clinic for sexually transmitted diseases.

As the immune system continues to break down, the body gradually loses its powers of combat. The two most common serious diseases which may then invade the body are a cancer, Kaposi's sarcoma, and a pneumonia, *Pneumocystis carinii*, which may lead to death.

For those who want further information or reassurance the Terence Higgins Trust (named after the first Briton to die from Aids) runs a helpline Mondays to Fridays 8 to 10pm, Tel (01) 2778 8745.

Complicating factors



In theory, it is possible that everyone who picks up the Aids virus will get Aids. But most investigators consider this unlikely. Instead, they think those who do develop the syndrome do so because other factors contribute to their illness. One possibility is that the victim's immune system is already below par and is unable to shake off the virus. The immune response could, for example, already have been dampened down by other infections or, in the case of haemopiliacs, by constant bombardment with blood products.

Another predisposing factor could be sperm entering the bloodstream and causing an an unusual immune reaction. In a normal heterosexual relationship, a woman's reproductive tract has special defences against her partner's "foreign" sperm. But it is thought that during anal intercourse sperm can get into the recipient's bloodstream.

The Aids virus may well turn out to be quite common, and to cause serious illness in only a few of those it infects. There is already a precedent for this. Hepatitis B virus can be sexually transmitted and is common among homosexuals and drug addicts. It causes viral jaundice, but less than one per cent of its victims die. Well over 90 per cent suffer no long-term consequences at all. When hepatitis B was first seen among drug addicts in the 1960s it was thought to be a new disease. Once the virus was identified it was soon clear that it was extremely common in under-developed countries.

Even so, it is important to remember that Aids will not just go away when its cause has been discovered. If a virus is identified it will be fairly simple to develop a blood test for it. This could then be used to minimize the chances of contaminated blood or blood products being used medically. It may even help doctors to spot those who need early treatment. Finding a drug or vaccine to combat the Aids virus is a completely different matter.

Treatment pitfalls



There is still no treatment for Aids. As yet doctors can concentrate only on treating the symptoms, the Kaposi's sarcoma and the infections. This is riddled with pitfalls. Aids victims with Kaposi's sarcoma, for example, can be treated with conventional anti-cancer drugs and radiotherapy. But this depresses their immune system even further, and increases their chances of developing another life-threatening infection.

Also, the infections from which Aids victims suffer tend to be difficult to diagnose and treat. For some, effective drugs are just not available. And often, even when a drug works, the infection reappears as soon as the durg is stopped or, since Aids victims frequently have three or four infections at the same time, another infection simply takes over.

As a result, an Aids victim with a severe infection now will on average, have only another eight or nine months to live. An Aids victim with Kaposi's sarcoma might see Christmas, 1985.

The difficulty is that these therapies do not tackle the real problem: they do not restore the Aids victim's immune system to normal. More ambitious therapies which attempt to do this, such as bone marrow transplants and filtering immune system-suppressing factors out of the Aids victim's blood have also failed.

However, two naturally occurring products of the immune system which, in test-tubes at least, boost T-helper cell activity are being tried. They are creating some cautious optimism although this could well turn out to be short-lived. The products are interferon, which has the added advantages of also having anti-viral and anti-tumour effects, and interleukin-2. Both can now be produced artificially by genetic engineering.

In the blood



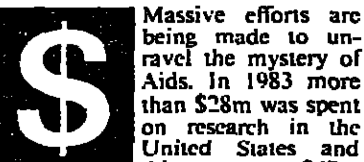
When blood transfusion patients in America developed Aids it caused a serious stir among British Blood Transfusion Service directors. For the moment the risk in the United Kingdom is only theoretical: there have not been any cases of transfusion associated Aids reported. Even in the US the risk is still fairly low. It is estimated that only one in a million bottles of blood there is contaminated with Aids.

Haemophiliacs, however, seem to run more risk of getting Aids. The reasons for this are twofold. First, the blood clotting factors haemophiliacs need to stay healthy are prepared from blood from thousands of donors. The chances of at least one donor having Aids are therefore that much greater. Second, we still rely on the United States for two thirds of our supplies of these products and will do until 1986. Even if British blood remains free of Aids US donated blood is not.

Frightening as the thought may be, after the initial shock last year when the risk of Aids to haemophiliacs was first publicized, doctors and haemophiliacs too have come stoically to accept Aids as just another of the risks the benefits of treatment must be set against. The incidence of Aids among haemophiliacs throughout the world is about one in 1,000. But haemophilia can be a crippling and devastating disease in itself and at present doctors say the benefits of treatment outweigh the risks.

Meanwhile, there are moves on both sides of the Atlantic to minimize the chances of Aids contaminated blood being used. In this country blood donors are supplied with information about Aids and asked not to donate if they think they may be at risk. The Central Research Committee of the Blood Transfusion Service is also investigating possible non-specific tests which would screen out blood most likely to carry Aids. Since we have yet to find the cause of Aids, and there is no specific test for it, this is the best they can do.

Research priorities



Massive efforts are being made to unravel the mystery of Aids. In 1983 more than $28m was spent on research in the United States and this year over $47m has been allotted. More than $100m is expected to be spent on care.

Last week the first meeting took place in Paris to launch the World Health Organization collaborating centre for Aids in Europe.

Most European countries have extensive research projects, although not on the scale of the USA, and there are three teams working in Zaire. One estimate suggests there may be more scientists and doctors involved in research on Aids than there are victims.

Internationally read medical journals always carry letters and reports on findings: editors now give priority to Aids research. One letter to the *New England Journal of Medicine* pointed out that the number of articles on Aids has risen at a similar rate to the reports of new Aids cases. But the task confronting the scientific community had been enormous. The speed of the spread and the numbers of people affected are unprecedented for a new disease. The numbers have been doubling every six months in the United States while the numbers in Europe run at about 10 per cent of the American total.

Dr Harold Jaffé of the Centres for Disease Control, Atlanta, says the task has bee made more difficult because of the populations involved. Homosexuals often cannot trace their contacts, intravenous drug abusers are notorious for non-cooperation and the Haitians have suffered from difficulties of communication.

Olivia Timbs and Lorraine Fraser



THE TIMES DIARY

Only the crème

Tea at the Ritz is to end. From May 1, that great British institution is to be open to residents only. Blame the riff-raff. For it is they, I am told, who have been tainting the Ritz with a "tarty" image – cocking their navvy-like pinkies in the elegant tea lounge (one lump or three?) "We had to bring a halt to it," insists assistant manager Julian Payne. "There was a time when you could tell a man by his shoes, but now it is by his sneakers." To keep out the scruffs, he put up the price of tea to £7.50. "Nothing keeps them out. Suppose *Ginger Rogers* (*she's* booked in for June) can't have tea because they're hogging the lounge. And she's paying £300 a night (without breakfast).

"It's ridiculous. I now have to stand at the door like a marine – trying to get them to get their feet off my £79-a-square foot carpet." My dear. Next they'll be asking him to tie their whippets to the railings.

Gallows gala

Everyone associated with Ruth Ellis, the last woman to be hanged in Britain, seem to be crawling out of the brickwork for Monday's press night of *Breakneck*, a play about her case, at the Theatre Royal, Stratford East, London. Georgina Enston, Ellis's daughter, who is now a model in Lancashire, will be joined at the performance by Peter Nolan, who took over Ellis's Knightsbridge nightspot, The Little Club, after her execution. Nolan tells me he hopes to sell his "Nightclub King Tells All" story to a newspaper. Also in the theatre audience will be Glen Colson, whose father Ted turned the Magdala Tavern in Hampstead, outside which Ellis shot her lover, into an American tourist trap. Glen tells me that after the shooting he was given the task of chiselling simulated bullet holes in the wall for dramatic effect.

Past imperfect

Sweet indeed are those rare moments when Sir Geoffrey Howe can indulge in a spot of banana-skin slinging. During a Foreign Affairs Committee meeting, Labour MP Ian Mikardo referred to Grenada as British. A smug Sir Geoffrey replied "I think you may not have moved quite into the post-colonialist era. Forgive me for putting it somewhat frivolously, but British territory is not apt."

Hemmings' way

Following Lord Harewood's surprise announcement this week of his resignation from English National Opera, the smart money in the arts world is on Peter Hemmings, manager of the London Symphony Orchestra, to succeed him. Hemmings has considerable experience in opera: in 1966 he became Scottish Opera's first general administrator and presided over its rise to critical success in the early 1970s. He left in 1977 to manage Australian Opera in Sydney and returned to his present post in 1979. Recently he has been restless – and had his eye on Director of the Edinburgh Festival but was beaten to the post by Frank Dunlop.

BARRY FANTONI



'What kind of work are you looking for – fresh, canned or frozen?'

Out!

Iain "Deep" Sproat has suffered yet another setback in his political career. First he lost the safe Tory seat of Roxburgh and Berwickshire after abandoning Aberdeen South – which, to his further embarrassment, was then won by his stand-in, Gerry Malone. Yesterday the former junior trade minister was exposed to further ignominy when he was ousted as a candidate for Sir Hugh Fraser's Stafford seat by the relatively unknown William Cash, a local solicitor. As Sproat returns to the drawing board at Rothschild's, where he works as a consultant, I suggest he swallow his pride and console himself that he shares at least one common interest with Cash: cricket. The victor tells me he opens the bowling for Staffs Gents and his son played for Middlesex 2nd XI last year. As editor of the *Cricketer's Who's Who*, Sproat should know that.

Last ball

England's cricketers just back from their catastrophic tour may find some consolation in one of Rory Coonan's photographs which go on show at the Commonwealth Institute next month. It is a view of Francis Plain in St Helena, where, during a match last century, a fielder pursued a boundary-bound stroke so zealously that he followed it over a sheer drop of 300 feet. The scoreboard's tart entry of the episode: RETIRED DEAD.

PHS

No submission on this Bill

Jason Ditton defends the original proposals for independent prosecutions, which the Government seems determined to reject

As the Police and Criminal Evidence Bill is publicly and noisily put through the House of Commons committee mangle – extruding an extra police power there, squeezing a concessionary safeguard here – debate is narrowed to focus upon each successive clause of the week. But neither libertarians nor authoritarians have time to lift their heads to notice that another police Bill, one with far greater long-term consequences, has been quietly demoted in the legislative agenda, and nobbled on the way.

The proposal to establish an independent prosecution service for England and Wales sprang from the loins of the same Royal Commission on Criminal Procedure that fathered the Bill now in committee. Indeed, recognition of the need to standardize the present haphazard and uneven prosecution arrangements (and to separate them from the police, who gained them more or less by historical accident), is of far longer standing than the current desire to reform police procedure.

More important than this, an independent prosecution service was seen by the Royal Commission as a necessary part of the complete overhaul of criminal procedure. With an eye to maintaining the "fundamental balance" which should always exist between "the interests of the community in bringing offenders to justice and . . . the rights and liberties of persons suspected or accused of crime", it proposed removing the power to prosecute from the police as a necessary counterbalance to giving them additional powers to stop, search, arrest, and detain.

Yet, though originally expected to be part of the Police and Criminal Evidence Bill, government proposals for an independent prosecution service appeared last October in a dismal and mostly unnoticed White Paper (Cmnd 9074) where they still await separate primary legislation. Separation and delay might be excusable. But the Royal Commission proposals have been effectively neutered by the Government, operating backstage.

By definition, the new service should be independent of the police. Yet it must be accountable in some way, both for general prosecution policy, and for decisions in individual cases. In an attempt to balance economy with effectiveness, the Royal Commission opted cautiously for leaving the decision to begin a prosecution with the police, with the conduct of the case thereafter in the hands of the new service.

To meet the demand for national consistency of policy, each prosecutor would be under a government department (and ultimately Parliament), which would set overall policy and have powers to reverse decisions in individual cases. To meet the demand for flexibility, the prosecutor would have to explain decisions in the locality affected by them.

But when these proposals were debated in Parliament in November, 1981, curious "doubts" were expressed on both sides over unspecified "dangers" lurking within them. Strangely, what stuck most in the parliamentary craw was the degree of local accountability and, even more strangely, that there was too much rather than too little of it. Indeed, once Eldon Griffiths, the Police Federation spokesman, announced that the federation was "concerned", the carefully considered and extensively documented proposals of the Royal Commission suddenly ceased to be worth the paper they were written on.

An inter-departmental working party was hastily convened with the purpose, as its chairman later candidly confessed to the Home Affairs Committee, of "taking apart what the Royal Commission put together". Unsurprisingly, the resulting White Paper neatly deletes the local accountability which the Royal Commission felt was "required", and proposes the type of centralized prosecution service which the commission had dismissed as "neither desirable nor necessary". Key terms were inverted. "Independence" is now defined as being from elected representatives (rather than from the police); "accountability" now for financial rather than for policy matters.

It is therefore difficult to believe that the White Paper is a safe basis for legislation. All that current government proposals would effectively achieve, if implemented, is an extension of police solicitors' departments to the few police forces now without them. Yet all that prevents this is sheer laggardliness, so what on earth would conversion of White Paper into Act achieve, apart from stifling the opportunity to enact genuine and long overdue reform?

The author is lecturer in sociology at Glasgow University, and a member of the executive committee of the Scottish Council for Civil Liberties.

Peter Nichols analyses the attack on Rome's 'anti-Soviet reactionary'

Why the Pope is back in the firing line

Rome

The communist world has delivered its heaviest verbal attack on the Pope just as the Italian courts are preparing to try the Bulgarian accused of conspiring to kill him.

The attack was launched by the Czechoslovak weekly *Tribuna*, which describes John Paul II as "one of the most reactionary pontiffs of our century." He is accused of conducting a campaign against progressive forces throughout the world and of reversing the concepts of his more flexible predecessors.

The Roman Catholic Church is treated worse in Czechoslovakia than in any other Eastern European country, but that situation is not sufficient to explain this blanket-barrage against the Pope which is taken to emanate from Moscow as much as from Prague. According to *Tribuna*, his speeches abroad are marked by "a policy of restoration of old social orders", a policy which has as its dominant theme "a passionate anti-communism and a visceral anti-Sovietism." The Vatican has officially described the attack as absurd, but that does not mean it is regarded as insignificant.

There is an awareness in the more expert reaches of the Vatican that a new stage has indeed been reached in relations between the Papacy and the Eastern Block. In fact the *Tribuna* article recognizes this because it compares John Paul II's approach with the "wisdom and sense of reality" of John XXIII and the "centrist diplomacy" of Paul VI, the two predecessors whose names the present pontiff adopted at his election.

In immediate terms, the Vatican's analysis is similar to that of the Czechoslovak in identifying three different approaches by as many different popes to the problem of dealing with the communist world.

John XXIII was elected in 1958 when the Vatican's stance was fiercely anti-communist. In his brief but tumultuous reign, he brought a fresh look to relations with the Soviet world. He invited Russian Orthodox observers to his Vatican Council, received Khrushchev's son-in-law, taught the possibility of cooperation with men of goodwill even if they followed mistaken ideologies, and began the long series of diplomatic negotiations with communist governments in a search for greater space for the church's activities.

Paul VI was temperamentally suited to the diplomatic approach and followed his predecessor in avoiding the public condemnations of communism common before 1958.

It is arguable – and is argued at the Vatican – that these two popes were reflecting the atmosphere of their times. John XXIII's cautious opening took place at a moment of widespread hope for better times: the young Kennedy was United States president and Khrushchev appeared determined to give a more attractive appearance to the Soviet regime. Paul VI's diplomacy showed in its limited but real results that the effort at negotiation was worth the criticisms from conservative Roman Catholics.

Then came John Paul II. The joy of his native Poland at his election was shared to some extent by the country's communist authorities, who saw it, somewhat shortsightedly, as a lesser evil than his possible appointment as primate of Poland.

John Paul II's attitudes could hardly be other than different to those of his predecessors. More than a diplomatic plan, he has a vision. He has repeatedly spoken of Europe as stretching to the Urals. He sees his election as a sign that Eastern Europe must be given its just place as an integral part of Christian Europe and not be treated simply as a painful diplomatic question. He insists on common Christian roots and, added to this vision, is a dream of reconciliation between Western Christianity and the Eastern Orthodox churches.

Compared with his predecessors he is, in the words of a highly placed prelate at the Vatican, "playing for much higher stakes, and one result is that the Soviet leadership sees him as an adversary". That would not have been said about a pope even in private at any time in the last quarter of a century, any more than the Czechoslovak attack would have been made during that period. His attitude is seen, however, to reflect the current state of relations between East and West. Who now sees hope for a genuine understanding with the Soviet Union?

Does this adversary status mean that Moscow was behind the nearly successful attempt on his life in St Peter's Square on May 13, 1981? Some light will be shed on this mystery when the trial at last takes place here of Serghei Antonov, the Bulgarian Airlines official accused of helping Mehmet Ali Agca, the Turkish terrorist, in the assassination plot.



Smiles as the Pope meets General Jaruzelski during his visit to Poland last year. The reality is somewhat different

A decision is expected daily from the investigating magistrate on whether he should be sent for trial, and it is almost certain that he will. It is believed that he must answer charges that he drove Agca to St Peter's on that fateful day and was ready to help him escape. In the event, some muscular nuns assured Agca's capture.

The implicit danger is that if the attempt on the Pope's life was really organized by the East, they will feel that they have to try again. In the intervening three years his design has become clearer. The Prague attack shows that he is regarded as a serious danger.

But it also bears out one of his great disappointments. The Pope is often regarded as being too Polish in his attitude towards the church internationally. But his close advisers point out that he is genuinely attached to the Slav peoples as a whole: he is deeply moved by the Eastern liturgies.

He had hoped that, in some way, communism would change. Prague underlines that it is showing no signs of doing so.

The effect of his approach to the East is still too confused for a clear judgment on its results. Poland is in constant torment. There is frequent criticism in the Vatican of Cardinal Glemp, whose appointment is said to have been made inevitable by a telephone call to the Pope from Cardinal Wyszynski, the late Primate, on his deathbed.

Glemp is felt to be too ready to seek to come to terms with the regime while too little concerned to carry the rest of the Polish bishops with him.

A likely explanation for the current controversy over crucifixes in Polish schools is that it represents the impatience of militant communists and of militant Catholics at the prospect of too close an alignment between church and state at the top.

Opinion is growing in Hungary that the church there should show more independence from the regime, with consequences still obscure. In Czechoslovakia the Vatican's instruction that priests should leave the Pacem in Terris movement, which is seen here to be a political instrument of the regime, was successful only with some 15 per cent of the membership. The Pope's vision is splendid enough but he must also feel his share of frustrations and perhaps of danger.

Can something different save Radio 4?

We Radio 4 listeners are a protective lot: scratch our network and we bleed in bucketsful. "Why can't they leave Radio 4 alone?" we bleat, as we did yesterday, when Richard Baker introduced the new three-hour magazine show *Rollercoaster*.

One response to the question is that it is *we* who have been leaving our network alone, and doing so in rather large numbers. Today the daily audience is numbered at about 4.5 million, down six million on the figure 10 years ago, according to one estimate.

Meanwhile, at an operating expenditure of £35m in 1982/3, Radio 4 is by far the most costly network to run, and in that year it actually increased the rather large gap separating it from the next largest spender (Radio 2, £26m) by some £3m. That situation is at the root of what has been happening and no doubt whatever may be going to happen, on Radio 4. Somehow, some part of that defecting six million has got to be retrieved.

Surely, you might say, close on five million is a decent turnout. But the question to that is, compared to what? Radios 1 and 2 do markedly better for less money, and no network can see its audience decline by more than half in a decade and still feel confident, paticularly when that network is supposed to be BBC Radio's flagship.

Why don't as many people want to listen as they did? Falling audiences have created attitudes which threaten standards and aggravate the decline. They also put the thumbscrew into the hands of those who decree licence fees and allocate budgets.

Of course there is always the case of Radio 3, which costs just a little less than Radio 2 and which attracts only about 10 per cent of that network's audience – about 100,000.

But Radio 3 is a very special case. We have agreed by some sort of unspoken, probably rather narrow and certainly very influentional consensus, that such expenditure on a relatively tiny audience is worthwhile. Indeed we might even become seriously alarmed if the listening figures began to show a significant improvement.

Personally I feel that a little of the same approving consensus might attach to Radio 4, which in the excellence and variety of much that it puts out is a national asset every bit as valuable as its culturally more esteemed colleague. But I have little hope of selling that point of view.

It is against this background that *Rollercoaster* will be making itself heard every Thursday morning until October. More specifically, the scheduling represents an effort to reverse a particularly marked decline in listening after 9 am, and its seamless construction an attempt to stop people from switching off at programme breaks by not giving them any.

Whatever you may have thought of the first edition, I believe it is quite wrong to view the enterprise with too much apprehension. The Controller of Radio 4, David Hatch, has said repeatedly and emphatically that he will be judged by his audience – if it does not like the programme, something different will be done – I think he is to be believed. His record as Controller of Radio 2 suggests as much.

It also suggests that he is by nature an innovator with an ear for what people like. Indeed the content of Radio 4, which by now is beginning to bear his mark, supports the truth of that.

When Mr Hatch talks of his devotion to the "rich mix", he is again to be taken seriously, and not too much weight attached to the slightly furtive disappearance of the Thursday concert. He certainly made efforts to enrich the mix on Radio 2 as first the *Fosdyke Saga* and now *Space Force* goes to show.

But I think the operative phrase in his reassurance is that "something different will be done". Although in October the standard morning format will return, I cannot see that as more than temporary. Either *Rollercoaster* or some more acceptable alternative will take its place.

For it is the standard format which has been losing listeners at such a pace and if that continues I would not care to vouch for the future of Radio 4. I am fairly sure that the awful reports of its impending dismemberment before the publication of *BBC Radio in the Nineties* were not without foundation. So between now and October it seems to me that David Hatch needs our ears and our voices, although not the sort of voice that wails "I don't like it because it is not like it was before".

Are we going to like our Thursday mornings? I think we might. Yesterday there was the odd technical hitch and the signposting was pretty messy – I could not work out what was coming when. However, if I compare what I heard with what I expected and certainly with what goes out on LBC at the same time, then it was a good mix. And even quite a rich one.

David Wade

David Watt

Making molehills out of mountains

What, if anything, can the world expect of this year's seven-nation summit meeting in London in a few weeks' time? The Trilateral Commission, being in the ginger-group business, has just produced a laudably peppery agenda, written jointly by Zbigniew Brzezinski, President Carter's security adviser, Saburo Okita, a former Japanese foreign minister, and David Owen.

The document outlines an elaborate programme of action sprinkled liberally with "urgent" and "radical". It calls, among other things, for the reduction of the US budget deficit, a revival of European technology, a more responsible attitude by Japan to a world from which it is making so much money, adding for good measure a demand for an agreement to stabilize exchange rates, to share defence burdens and to cope with the Third World debt crisis. It is an impressive list: and most of it, I'm afraid, is pure fantasy.

The trouble is not, of course, that these are not genuine problems. It is perfectly obvious to everyone, except President Reagan, that the US budget deficit is too big and Europe's structural unemployment is casting a heavy political cloud over the whole western alliance. But the sad truth is that there is no political will among the present summiteers to tackle these and other evils in a cooperative fashion; and even if there were, there would not be the slightest possibility of dealing with more than a tenth of the Trilateral agenda at one summit.

To understand the realities it is necessary to recall a little history (and for this purpose there is an excellent new book on the subject, *Hanging Together*, by N. Bayne and R. Putnam (Heinemann). The summit series which began at Rambouillet in 1975 has been through three phases. The first was run more or less according to the prescriptions of German Chancellor Helmut Schmidt and President Giscard d'Estaing of France, who had invented the whole idea.

The notion was of a quiet, civilized country weekend at which a handful of powerful and intelligent potentates, most of whom had been finance minister at one time or another, would discuss world economic problems, in rather general terms, and perhaps give a well-judged push to the system here and there as a result.

This worked reasonably well, though with very limited results, until Jimmy Carter came along in 1977 with his earnest managerial style and a lot of demands for real macro-economic coordination between the major industrial economies. The famous "locomotive" theory, whereby the US and West German economies were supposed to pull the world out of recession, was one centrepiece of his scheme: later, when the second oil shock came upon us in 1978, there was the idea of a cooperative US-European-Japanese attempt to cope with the consequences of the crisis.

Both these mechanisms were eventually put into operation, though only at the cost of the most traumatic rows – mainly between the Americans and the Germans – and with real results, or possibly lack of them, that the economists are still arguing about.

The third phase was ushered in with the arrival of Mrs Thatcher and President Reagan. Both of them were in a nationalist frame of mind; both had a strong ideological dislike of attempts to organize economic forces: both were inexperienced and ill at ease with international questions. In short, both thoroughly distrusted the entire exercise.

Mrs Thatcher's advisers had the greatest difficulty in getting her to take a single step in the direction of the Tokyo summit a few weeks after her 1979 election victory. "Why on earth should I go all that way? I have much more important things to do here," was her attitude. She has been softened, of course, by the "top table" benefits of publicity and the like (which paid off handsomely when the Williamsburg summit fell right in the middle of last year's British election campaign), but basically neither she nor Reagan (nor, for that matter, Chancellor Kohl) believes that global "economic management" la Carter is desirable or feasible.

In a sense, therefore, we are now back to the original Giscardian summit model. But there are two important differences. The first is that there are more crises to deal with than in the golden days when the Rambouillet summiteers had nothing more to worry about than an economic boom that was getting out of hand.

The second change is that most of the present incumbents are actually more interested in politics than in economics. They are more likely to want to talk, though in general terms, about East-West relations than about exchange-rate surveillance – for the simple reason that on the former subject they have at least a foggy idea of what they are talking about.

Even when events force them, or politics tempt them, to address immediate economic questions there are plenty of factors working to abort successful discussion. For one thing there is the problem of France. French diplomacy is, as usual, based on the proposition that while multilateralism is just about tolerable in economic questions, it is far too restricting to French freedom of action in political matters.

Another problem is the sheer shortage of time available: out of the 366 days of 1984, only about five hours will be found for the joint discussion of the world's most critical problems: the rest of the meeting will be taken up by social functions, press conferences, photo calls, bilateral conclaves and wrangles about the precise wording of the communiqué. This is totally inadequate for the task in hand.

What, then, is to be done? Clearly it is better that summits take place than that they do not, because occasional communication at the highest level helps leaders to understand one another's problems. But we are in a quandary. Summits are almost by definition very much the personal property of whoever are the contemporary summiteers. One could easily devise the most elaborate machinery to improve them – a small secretariat, longer and more frequent meetings and so forth. With a different cast of characters this might be effective and necessary.

But what is the use if, as at present, leaders do not have the desire or capacity to take advantage of the machinery that exists? If there is a moral at all to be drawn from the history of summitry so far, it is that if we really want the kind of economic management the Trilateralists are after, there is nothing for it but to change our leaders.

Philip Howard

Olympic spirit skating on thin ice

I can see that sliding in time with *Ravel's Bolero* is pretty, if you like that kind of thing. I find ballet prettier; and even at the ballet a grimace has been known to twitch at the corners of my mouth at the solemn moments. When Pearl and Dean grab each other around the upper thighs while slipping backwards at 20 miles an hour, or twizzle around on their tummies on the ice looking soulful, they add to the hilarity of nations, and enrich the public stock of harmless pleasure. I can see that it is clever. Those of us who fall axel over salchow as soon as we try to go backwards on skates can scarce forbear to cheer and throw bouquets on the ice. But is it sport? I doubt whether anything whose result depends so much on aesthetic judgments of arbiters ought to be an Olympic sport.

I remember putting this argument once to a royal personage who was shortly to go bouncing on horseback for Britain. True Olympic sports, I said, ought to be settled by the skill and strength of individual athletes, with no help from expensive equipment such as horses, which favours those with long purses, and with the result plain without the verdict of judges, who may be partisan or short-sighted. If you had to have equestrian events, which I doubted, it would be fairer and more in tune with the Olympic spirit if the riders had to dismount half way round the course, and carry their mounts over the second half. I remember that I seemed to laugh more at my joke than she did.

My argument was unhistorical as well as impertinent. Horses and chariot races were introduced into the Olympic Games early in the seventh century BC, probably because it suited Pheidon, tyrant of Argos, whose chaps were bad at running, but good with horses. Early discus and javelin throwers depended on equipment almost as much as Pearl and Dean depend on their record-player and skates; although I had not realized that they had electric skates until the nonsense was held up by a power failure.

I understand that swimming in unison, as it used to be performed by Esther Williams and a team of aquatic beauties, doing the backstroke in unison, and singing, and smiling the while, is one of the new events for the summer Olympics. We are evidently in a period of decadence in sport, where spectacle and circus matter more than athleticism. We have been through it before; when the Reds and Greens rioted for days about the equestrian events at Constantinople; when Nero won the ice skating and the chariot racing at Olympia, even though he fell out of his chariot, had to be pushed back in, and still did not finish the course.

But if we are going in for spectacle, we should go the whole hog, instead of the half piglet of ice dancing and unison swimming. I doubt whether even the boys in the Shed at Stamford Bridge are ready for gladiators, or for skinheads being thrown to the lions – yet. But Timothy Severin's latest loony voyage provides an idea for a new Olympic sport, more spectacular and more traditional than *Bolero* on ice. You may have seen that he proposes to sail a new Argo in the puddles of the Argonauts to Colchis on a quest for the Golden Fleece Television Award.

Mr Severin says that he wants to establish the actual basis for the legendary voyage of Jason: "Scholars will be able to judge it, once the evidence is there in reality, not in books." That seems to take a naive view of mythology: and of books, for that matter. The idea has merit, not as evidence of anything, but as an Olympic sport. Nations will build their Argos, and select their strongest teams of heroes. The judges will arrange the obstacles and hazards of the course, as they do at present in the slalom and the horsy events. We shall borrow aircraft carriers and nuclear submarines from the great powers to represent the Clashing Rocks, Triton, and other sea obstacles. Their air forces can supply the Harpies. For the encounter with the women of Lemnos, I suggest that we combine the event with the Miss World Contest. Television will accompany the teams on their journey. And it will be good sport.

TIMES PAST THE TIMES

P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

WHILE BRITAIN SLEPT

The citizens of Grenada were rescued last October from a grisly fate. The events which led to the assassination of the Prime Minister, Mr Maurice Bishop, were coolly described yesterday in the report of the Commons Foreign Affairs Committee. The prose may be cool, but it cannot conceal the fact that Grenada had been hijacked by a particularly nasty little gang of Marxist-Leninists aided by representatives of Cuba, the Soviet Union, Libya, Bulgaria and North Korea.

The Report states that Britain was insufficiently attuned to the feelings of the Commonwealth Caribbean states about events in Grenada. Ministers were thus unresponsive to their cries for help. The Report criticised the American administration for intentionally keeping Britain short of information about the plan to intervene. Shortage there may have been, but surely that was understandable in the light of the total passivity shown by the British authorities. It was a reasonable assumption for Washington to make that the British passivity indicated a reluctance to get involved.

The narrative of the Select Committee makes it quite clear that any active diplomacy in the Caribbean and between London and Washington could soon have discovered what was planned. It is true that there was a legacy of ill-feeling between the American Embassy in Barbados and the British High Commission, but beyond that the Foreign Office and the Foreign Secretary stand guilty either of a deliberate passivity or else an incapacity to sense a developing emergency in a strikingly and alarmingly similar way to that shown before Argentina invaded the Falklands.

Once they were caught on the hop the British authorities behaved even worse. They wholly misjudged the Caribbean context and thus attempted to seek refuge in the small-print which itself distorted the realities of the crisis. The Prime Minister said that one could not go walking into other people's countries. The Foreign Secretary echoed these sentiments. They chose to ignore then, and still ignore now, the salient fact that the sole remaining constitutional authority in Grenada – the Governor-General – had personally invited the international force first orally and then in writing when his physical security was assured. Even when Sir Paul Scoon personally confirmed this version on television Sir Geoffrey Howe, on the same screen a few minutes later, was unable to give him or the facts the recognition they deserved.

The operation was justified on other grounds by the Organisation of East Caribbean States and by the United States. They were legitimate in law but they were arguable in politics. However the role of the Governor-General is unarguable. The other elements in Grenada's constitution had manifestly broken down. His duty and his prerogatives were clear. He had no obligations to the British Government. He was wise to leave the Palace out of it. The Queen of Grenada was not at home. He was, both from the nature of his office and from the circumstances obtaining at the time, a plenipotentiary. Was it pique, guilt or both which inspired the Foreign Office and British ministers to be so aloof and ungenerous in their judgment of his action?

It may seem a small episode in the life of the Alliance, best now forgotten. But it is not. The Select Committee cautiously examined the consequences in the Caribbean and concludes that the damage to British relations with its Commonwealth partners is not deep. Perhaps that is only because the previous evidence of British neglect, vividly illustrated by its lack of representation and its faulty intelligence during the crisis, had already convinced Caribbean states that their best interests lay in seeking the protection of the United States. They were right, since Britain could not anyway have provided the necessary force in time. One is left with a suspicion, however, that Britain's physical inability to participate in the operation, and its intelligence shortcomings, contributed to a sourness which gratuitously infected British judgments of the whole operation.

The remaining question is: has it affected the underlying strengths in the Anglo-American relationship? On the surface that may be denied; but most people in Washington draw an unfavourable comparison between the spontaneity of American support for Mrs Thatcher during the Falklands crisis, and the meanness of spirit displayed to Caribbean leaders and the American administration over Grenada.

The basic fabric of the alliance has been bruised. The Administration already feels hemmed-in by allies and by Congress, which both inhibit its ability to conduct an active and flexible foreign policy. Now Britain can no longer be relied upon to be there on the night.

The Grenada episode showed a British failure of intelligence, a failure of judgment and a failure of nerve. Yet the world is full of Grenadas, – micro-states vulnerable to the predations of what the Select Committee described as a "classic revolutionary movement in the Bolshevik mould". There will be more cries for help, more rescue operations to be mounted. Sir Geoffrey Howe needs to reassure the Commons that Britain is not going to sleep through them all.

A LESSON FROM NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

Slowly, painfully but ultimately to their own great benefit and to that of workers in other industries, the miners are learning and teaching their fellow trade unionists that when a trade union leadership behaves as its members' worst enemy it must be faced and resisted. Yesterday, the Nottinghamshire miners' delegates rejected their executive's recommendation (which itself had resulted more from a loss of will than a positive wish to support the Yorkshire pickets) not to cross picket lines. They took this decision with the convincing majority of 182 votes to 72. In so doing they may prove to have thwarted Mr Arthur Scargill's wish to use his union as the spearhead of a political strike.

One of the most significant aspects of the dispute in the mining industry is the extent to which the totem of the picket line has lost its power to terrify by moral persuasion, which has ultimately been its greatest power. Of course, mass picketing with its implicit and explicit intimidation is also a formidable power, but at least that is something that can be resisted with the help of the police. But when this help is given, the final decision whether to cross the lines is for each worker alone, and what has been most remarkable has been the willingness of miners in Nottinghamshire and Leicestershire to accept police protection as a means of doing the work they wish to do. It is the outward and visible sign of a waning belief in blind solidarity for solidarity's sake.

The reason is the new economic realism of many miners, to which they have been brought by the facts of a trade unionist's life in the 1980s, and by their commitment to what used to be called middle-class standards and aspirations for their families. They need to work in an industry that is stable, economically productive and well-paid. To turn the coal-mines into that kind of industry is the object of Mr Ian Macgregor and the National Coal Board, and it is against this object that Mr Scargill has been appealing with his wish to strike in aid of uneconomic pits. There is no reason to doubt that Mr Scargill sees this dispute as the weapon with which to try to break the government's economic policy and perhaps bring down the government itself.

His tactics have been to avoid a national strike ballot for fear that it would go against him, and to use the secondary pressure of the militant areas against those which want to work, so producing a domino reaction by which the mining areas are brought to a standstill one by one. By this means, he had hoped to be able to argue, when the National Union of Mineworkers' executive meets next Thursday, that the coalfields had already virtually opted to strike, and that a ballot was therefore unnecessary.

Now, as a result of the Nottinghamshire miners' decision, this claim has no credibility, not least because they work in Britain's second largest coalfield. Secondary picketing has not worked as intended either physically or morally within the coalfields, and more than that it has not worked outside either. Apart from the decision by the National Union of Seamen's executive to "black" all coal imports (a clear case of unlawful secondary action) other industries have refused to be seduced by Mr Scargill's insidious invitation to follow him into a fight with the government. Though the National Union of Railwaymen's leaders have officially instructed their members to ban the movement of coal, the rail unions in practice appear to be doing their best to avoid all-out confrontation with British Rail. Even more forcibly, the power and steel workers (the latter at Ravenscraig most emphatically) are making it clear that they do not intend to destroy their own jobs to help Mr Scargill towards a widespread political strike which would certainly fail for lack of public support.

The bane of British trade unionism since the war has been its leaders' refusal to accept that their members' interest is best served by a sense of identification with the prosperity of an economically productive working organization. One of Mrs Thatcher's biggest achievements has been to stand back from industrial disputes and refuse to buy bogus peace with intervention and uneconomic compromise. The government wants economic realities to teach their own lesson. Mr Scargill has not learnt it because he does not want to. A free and prosperous society which benefits all in the long run is not his sort of society, but increasingly it is that of his members.

UNESCO ON BORROWED TIME

Unesco was founded in the warm glow of post-war idealism when it was tempting to believe that wars could be avoided if only intelligent, educated people sat down together and talked over their differences. As Mr Attlee, then British Prime Minister, said: "Since wars begin in the minds of men it is in the minds of men that the defence of peace must be reconstructed." Hence it was thought that a United Nations body dedicated to furthering education, intellectual exchange and the free flow of ideas could contribute to preventing another war.

It was a noble dream but it had flaws. Among other things it presupposed that conflicts derive mostly from ignorance and misunderstanding, that people will agree if these are cleared up, and that most people actually want to agree. In fact, of course, James Thurber was nearer the truth with his cartoon showing one member of a couple saying "Now that I understand you I don't like you." Conflicts are often based on genuine conflicts of interest, not misunderstandings, and many states, when given the floor at a meeting, prefer propounding their own views to bridging differences with others.

Sadly, Unesco has fallen victim largely to the reality of the world as it is – riven by ideological and national differences and dominated numerically by a multitude of small states, many of them newly emerged from colonialism and often more interested in propagating their ideas than seeking after higher truths. In addition, like any large bureaucracy, Unesco has accumulated a lot of vested interests and dead wood. As a result, the patience of the largest contributor, the United States, has snapped, and Britain's is near the same point. Mr Timothy Raison, Minister for Overseas Development, has written a letter to the Director-General of Unesco, Mr M'Bow, making a large number of well-founded criticisms and calling for substantial changes in the way Unesco spends its money.

The gist of Unesco's defence is that since its primary purpose is to develop intellectual cooperation among nations it cannot opt out of political controversy; that most of its money is spent on valuable practical work in areas such as education, scientific research and the rescue of historic monuments; that very nearly all its decisions are taken by consensus, which means that countries such as the United States and Britain which went along with these decisions must share responsibility for them; and that its operations are regularly scrutinized by two external monitors, the United Nations Joint Inspection Unit and the United Kingdom Comptroller and Auditor General.

There can be no doubt that a major shake-up is necessary. The original ideals have been tarnished and submerged beneath mountains of paper and vacuous talk. Initially Unesco itself should be given a chance to put these things right; but not for long. If it shows it cannot do so, the major dissatisfied contributors will have to get together to see if there is some way in which the best of Unesco's work can be brought under another roof while the rest is left to wither in the hands of those who prefer it as it is.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Preventing a war in outer space

From Mr Robert Banks, MP for Harrogate (Conservative)

Sir, People can no longer ignore the real prospect that space, too, will become a battleground in a superpower conflict. The United States "Star Wars" development programme will inevitably be duplicated in the Soviet Union in one way or another. In time weapons and counter-weapons systems will be produced and stationed in space at vast costs to both sides.

It is not only relevant but vital to ask what exactly is the role of Nato in all this. Let us not delude ourselves either into believing that a space war can take the place of or be separate from one on earth.

Surely all governments need to be concerned about a possible war over their heads. In would, in my view, be right to try and persuade the Soviet Union and the United States to draw up a space treaty to prohibit the stationing or firing of any weapon of destruction in space.

It is not yet too late to make a Stars Peace.

Yours faithfully,
R. G. BANKS,
House of Commons.
April 4.

Toll of unemployment

From Mr James Callaghan, MP for Cardiff South and Penarth (Labour)

Sir, Professor Wilson's letter, published in today's edition of *The Times*, refers to the tragic rise in unemployment during the Callaghan and Thatcher governments.

May I point out that during 1976, when I became Prime Minister, the average monthly count of the unemployed in Great Britain was 1,305,000. In 1979, when I left office, the average monthly count was 1,326,000 – an increase of 25,000 and a far cry from today's three millions.

Had the trade union movement been far-sighted enough to continue its support of a realistic incomes policy, the country would have been spared much (but not all) of the tragic increase in unemployment that has taken place since.

Yours faithfully,
JAMES CALLAGHAN,
House of Commons.
April 5.

From Professor J. E. Meade, FBA

Sir, In 1981 it was essential to restrain inflation. There were two possible strategies; one was to restrain effective demand for the products of labour until unemployment was raised to a level sufficient to break the wage inflation; the other was to achieve a radical reform of wage-setting arrangements which would allow the effective demand for labour to be sustained at adequate levels without an undue inflation of money wage costs.

The second method is incomparably more efficient and more humane, but, alas, also incomparably more difficult and challenging politically.

The first method has brought inflation down at the cost of a great rise in unemployment. But, unless some government can be found to face the more difficult and challenging task, the inflationary threat is likely to be renewed if and when, by whatever means, unemployment is restored towards the levels successfully sustained in the quarter of a century after World War II.

Yours faithfully,
JAMES MEADE,
Christ's College,
Cambridge.

80 years of Entente

From the Chairmen of the Franco-British Council

Sir, Eighty years ago this week-end, on April 8, 1904, France and Britain signed the agreements which established the Entente Cordiale between the two countries. These agreements put an end to centuries of strife and disagreement between France and Britain and established instead the alliance which, in two world wars, has since contributed so much to preserving our common values and heritage.

When the Queen visited France in 1972 the two governments commemorated the occasion by founding the Franco-British Council, whose purpose was and remains the improvement of Franco-British relations and understanding.

As co-chairmen of this council we therefore ask you, Sir, to allow us to recall the eightieth anniversary of the Entente Cordiale and to express our continuing firm belief that Franco-British agreement is fundamental for the wellbeing of our two countries and for the future of Europe and indeed of the whole free world.

We remain, Sir, your most obedient servants,
PHILIP de ZULUETA, Chairman, British Section,
ROBERT PONTILLON, Chairman, French Section,
Franco-British Council,
2 Clarendon Close, W2.
April 5.

Ghana's economic ills

From the High Commissioner for Ghana

Sir, By relying entirely on the substance of, and – most unusually for the *The Times* newspaper – on direct quotations from, a press release issued by what you describe as a group of Ghanaian exiles, your leading article of March 7 on Ghana forfeited whatever claim it might have laid even to the semblance of objectivity. What is also astonishing is that it failed to take any account of assessments by such institutions as the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund, for which your newspaper has previously shown a consistently favourable bias.

At the meeting of the Consultative Group (of donor countries and multilateral institutions) for Ghana, held in Paris last November, there was broad acknowledgement of the near total collapse in which the Ghana Government found the economy on taking office just over two years ago. The difficulties standing in the way of recovery, which have been aggravated by exceptionally serious drought, bushfires and the influx, early last year, of more than one million Ghanaian returnees from Nigeria, were generally recognised as formidable. Indeed, the consensus was that few countries have started the process of trying to make a comeback from such depths and with so much against them.

The chairman of the meeting also remarked that to date no government in Ghana, and few elsewhere in recent years, had attempted such comprehensive and far-reaching economic reforms as have been introduced in the course of the past year. The meeting itself noted with satisfaction that the Government was steadfastly pursuing its courageous programme to revitalise the economy and, in particular, that during 1983 a number of important steps had been taken even in advance of the agreed schedule.

The World Bank has concluded that after a difficult first year in office, during which the Ghana Government took extraordinary measures to arrest the slide in the economy, the Government's policy reforms demonstrate a firm resolve to come to grips with the country's economic problems. The IMF for its part has noted that the Government's stabilization programme is an important and realistic step towards rehabilitating the Ghanaian economy.

It is the prediction of the fund that given a continuation of current adjustment policies, balance of payments viability will be achieved in three to five years; 1983, in its view, was a year of consolidation and real growth is likely to pick up in 1984. The bank also expects that the economy will attain moderately rapid growth in the next few years if the Government implements its recovery programme and if donors support its efforts.

In suggesting that the Government has no helpful economic prescription for the country, your leading article disregarded these evaluations. On political developments your article likewise omitted to take notice of the serious efforts of the Government, to which Lord Gifford referred in his very perceptive letter of March 21, to promote democratic institutional reform. The objectives include, as recently announced, the emergence through election processes of a genuinely representative National Assembly as the supreme organ of government and state power.

A final reminder: the Ghana Government has repeatedly disclaimed – and is indeed too preoccupied with the tasks indicated above to entertain – any desire to spread "revolution" to its neighbours. The Government would nevertheless be gratified if its political and economic policy reforms were seen as an example for other African countries facing similar problems.

Yours faithfully,
K. K. S. DADZIE,
Office of the High Commissioner for Ghana,
13 Belgrave Square, SW1.
March 30.

VAT burden on historic homes

From the Chairman of the Historic Buildings and Monuments Commission for England

Sir, Several correspondents have pointed out that the proposed extension of VAT to building reconstruction and alterations would provide an even stronger incentive than already exists for owners to demolish older properties rather than to restore and convert them.

The Historic Buildings and Monuments Commission endorse those views. We are concerned that such an extension of VAT, together with the proposal in respect of the sale or lease of reconstructed buildings, would seriously inhibit the preservation of historic buildings, especially those in a state of dereliction or in need of a new use.

Private individuals, by whom most listed buildings are owned, would have to find an extra 15 per cent for reconstruction, alterations and conversion. So would churches and charities, which already have difficulty in raising funds for major reconstruction or conversion.

The VAT change would also threaten the operation of the building preservation trusts which, in the last ten years, have come to play a crucial role in saving historic buildings. Most of those trusts operate on very small margins and would not be able to obtain an extra 15 per cent on the sale of properties they have restored. Already several important projects, including that for the Thermal Baths, Buxton, have been halted following the VAT announcement.

The VAT changes would also rule out many schemes of restoration and improvement of historic buildings by housing associations, which have saved many properties of architectural distinction, especially in the inner cities, as well as providing much needed housing.

These VAT proposals run directly counter to the Government's policy of preserving historic buildings and areas, which this commission has been appointed to carry out. We hope that the proposals will be reconsidered as a matter of urgency and that buildings which are listed, or situated in conservation areas, will be zero-rated for repairs, alterations and reconstruction and on the sale or lease after such works.

If that does not happen the damage to the efforts of many individuals and organisations to protect our heritage and to the built heritage itself will indeed be substantial.

Yours faithfully,
MONTAGU OF BEAULIEU,
Chairman,
Historic Buildings and Monuments Commission for England,
c/o 2 Marsham Street, SW1.

From Mr John E. Barham

Sir, I have followed the correspondence in your columns on the Chancellor's proposal to increase the VAT charged on building repairs and your readers may be interested in the policy in Belgium.

All house repairs, including painting, and most of the materials used are charged VAT at 6 per cent instead of the usual 19 per cent. Grants covering 30 per cent of the cost of renewal up to a maximum of £3,750 are available in Brussels and this may be increased up to 40 per cent, with a maximum of £5,000 for houses in designated areas of the city.

These grants, subject to certain conditions, are also paid to tenants who carry out such work. The two programmes have started a much-needed renovation of older houses, while providing employment in the building and related industries.

HM Government may wish to compare the synergistic benefits of this policy with the likely effects of the Chancellor's proposals, not to mention the risk of repairs being done without paying the full amount of VAT.

Yours faithfully,
J. E. BARHAM,
Rue du Portugal 25,
1060 Brussels, Belgium.

Cost of car parts

From the Director General of the Engineering Industries Association

Sir, I refer to Mr Clifford Webb's article of March 28 ("Austin threat to buy car parts abroad") and the threat to British component manufacturers. As Director General of the Engineering Industries Association I am becoming increasingly concerned at the utterances of Mr Harold Musgrove, Chairman of Austin Rover. He is confusing cause and effect.

We have difficulty in selling overseas or, for that matter, at home because our factory-gate prices are too high to be competitive. Our prices are too high for a multiplicity of reasons, but the major ones relate to the Government taking far too big a bite out of the manufacturing cake before it is baked.

The reason for this is to enable the Government to make massive handouts to such as Mr Musgrove. If he will give us our billion pounds back we will reduce our prices. He really cannot have it both ways.

I have just returned from overseas seeking to sell products which in some cases are 25 per cent above our international competitors' costs.

The on-costs of manufacturing in this country are ludicrous. Rent, rates, energy costs, NHI contributions, raw material costs, enforced increases in staff to cover such administrative activities as PAYE, social security payments and VAT, postal and telecommunication charges are all outside management control and are far too high.

If Mr Musgrove wishes to talk free and fair trade and presumably to act on Sir Michael Edwardes's "inalienable right" to buy wherever it is cheapest he should first establish costing parameters to ensure all factors are considered. He should then unravel and define that which is free and fair.

Yours faithfully,
W. T. WILLIAMS, Director General,
Engineering Industries Association,
16 Dartmouth Street,
Westminster, SW1.

From the Ambassador to Mongolia

Sir, I see, in the rather elderly copies of *The Times* we receive in Ulan Bator, advertisements telling us how a (foreign) car started first go after being encased in a block of ice, at -30°C, for "over a day".

We took delivery yesterday (March 21) of a Rover 3500 which had been in transit by rail from Leningrad since December 23, 1983. I have no idea of the lowest temperature to which it was exposed on its slow progress, in the depth of winter, along the trans-Siberian railway, but in Ulan Bator temperatures have gone well below -30°C this winter.

Once the car had been removed from its container and the battery, which had accompanied it, connected, the key was turned and the car started – first go.

Yours faithfully,
J. R. PATERSON,
British Embassy,
Ulan Bator, Mongolia.
March 22.

Girls in boys' schools

From Professor G. S. Dawes, FRS

Sir, Your Education Correspondent (March 29) has reported Mr Watkinson, of Rydal School, as suggesting that the first motive of boys' independent public schools in admitting girls was "survival and enlargement of the school". It was said to be a "move founded on convenience rather than conviction".

Mr Watkinson has drawn the wrong conclusion without seeking evidence so far as Repton is concerned.

We admitted a limited number of day girls on an experimental basis from 1970. Six years later we concluded that both their performance and their influence were remarkably good, and therefore built a boarding house for girls from our own resources.

Far from being a matter of convenience or need, this decision was made on a principle derived from experience. Perhaps educational policies should more often be the subject of limited or controlled trials.

Yours faithfully,
G. S. DAWES. (Chairman of the Governors, Repton School),
University of Oxford,
The Nuffield Institute for Medical Research,
Headley Way,
Headington, Oxford.

Privileges for journalists

From the General Secretary of the Institute of Journalists

Sir, You report (April 3) that more than 200 editors have supported a letter urging the Government to remove all references to journalism from the Police and Criminal Evidence Bill.

Apparently they believe that for some inexplicable reason any future government with the power and will to license journalists will be prevented from doing so if there is no mention of journalism in the Bill. They also claim that it will be no service to their readers if journalists have special privileges.

Why not? Journalists are already privileged – in law when they report the proceedings of courts and public bodies and in reality whenever the production of a press card admits them to places and events closed to the public.

Members of Parliament enjoy a collection of rights and immunities in comparison with which the Bill's protection for journalistic material is trivial. The purpose of parliamentary privilege is to protect frank comment, the pursuit of citizens' grievances and the exposure of corruption and of abuse of power. Is the role of the press so very different or so much less valuable?

The dangers against which the Bill in its present form offers protection are real, important and immediate. Those feared by the editors are remote, improbable and in one case seemingly inspired by near-paranoia and in the other by romantic delusions.

In their temporary retreat from common sense it is not surprising that they have overlooked a further danger they have created for themselves and their colleagues. It is that no government will ever again take seriously fears voiced by the press that its freedom is imperilled by new legislation.

I hope the Home Secretary will not forget that the Guild of British Newspaper Editors, the Institute of Journalists and the National Union of Journalists remain united in support of this part of the Bill.

Yours faithfully,
R. F. FARMER, General Secretary,
Institute of Journalists,
Bedford Chambers,
Covent Garden, WC2.
April 4.

Cardinal and the Pill

From the Very Reverend Monsignor G. R. Leonard.

Sir, Unlike your Religious Affairs Correspondent, Clifford Longley ("Hume will not back Gillick over the pill action", April 5) I do not feel that the BMA will take any comfort from the full text of Cardinal Hume's letter to Mrs Gillick.

It may not be clear from your Correspondent's report that the Cardinal states in his letter that "the values which you seek to protect and promote are indeed precious to all Catholics and to many outside the Church". He is profoundly disturbed by the rapid growth of "a contraceptive and anti-life mentality" in British society today.

He quotes with approval the fact that many bishops have already encouraged Catholic support for the reform of the DHSS guidelines. He stresses that the bishops of England and Wales will "urge strongly on public authorities their responsibilities not to undermine family values and to protect children from every kind of corruption".

It is only within this context that one properly understands that the Cardinal reserves judgment on the question of whether these issues are best resolved or properly treated by means of a court case.

Yours faithfully,
GEORGE R. LEONARD.
Archbishop's House,
Westminster, SW1.
April 5.

Threat to butterflies

From Dr J. L. Campbell

Sir, The news that thousands of five species of butterflies are to be released on Hampstead Heath (report, March 29) is something that will be learnt by serious nature lovers with mixed feelings.

Apart from the fact that the British migration records for the Red Admiral and the Painted Lady will become worthless this year and whenever such a thing is done again, what chance will the more sedentary species have amongst the urban sprawls and the insecticide-soaked hedgeless fields of southern England?

It would be better if the money were spent on encouraging the natural habitats of British butterflies, where these are threatened.

Yours faithfully,
J. L. CAMPBELL,
Canna House,
Isle of Canna,
Scotland.
March 30.

US do-gooders?

From Colonel James Ferguson

Sir, In his Letter from Washington (April 2) Christopher Thomas gives some interesting examples of Washingtonese and Pentagonese used by that master of both dialects, Alexander Haig. But to be fair to that distinguished former Supreme Commander and Secretary of State, when he used to ask of his subordinates if a particular solution they were proposing was actually "do-able" they were in no doubt whatsoever what he meant, nor, what is more, of the fate which would befall them if, in the event, it proved not to be.

Yours faithfully,
JAMES FERGUSON,
13 Blackhouse Hill,
Hythe,
Kent.
April 2.



COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

WINDSOR CASTLE
April 5: The Queen was represented by the Lord Lucas of Chilworth (Lord in Waiting) at the Memorial Service for the Lord Byers which was held in Westminster Abbey today.

CLARENCE HOUSE
April 5: Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother opened the Lew Cohen Leukaemia Research Unit at the Faculty of Clinical Sciences, University College London, this afternoon.

Lady Angela Oswald and Sir Martin Gilliat were in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE
April 5: The Princess of Wales visited the Burslem factory of Royal Doulton Tableware Ltd at Stoke-on-Trent, Staffordshire, today.

Miss Anne Beckwith-Smith and Lieutenant-Commander Peter Eberle, RN, were in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE
April 5: The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon, today visited Canvey Island and was received on arrival by Her Majesty's Deputy Lieutenant for Essex (Councillor R. M. Williams).

Her Royal Highness was entertained at luncheon at the Council Offices, Benfleet, by the Chairman of Castle Point District Council (Councillor F. P. Wood) and later inspected the Benfleet Tidal Barrier, Benfleet Creek and the Sea Defence at Tewkes Creek.

The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon subsequently visited Prouts Boatbuilders, Small Gains Creek, and the Waterside Farm Sports Centre.

Her Royal Highness, who travelled in an aircraft of The Queen's Flight, was attended by Lady Elizabeth Cavendish.

YORK HOUSE
ST JAMES'S PALACE
April 5: The Duke of Kent, President of the All England Lawn Tennis Club, this evening attended the Wimbledon Dinner, which was held at the Institute of Directors, Pall Mall, London SW1.

Sir Richard Buckley was in attendance.

The Princess of Wales, patron, National Children's Orchestra, will attend a rehearsal at Wellington College, Berkshire, on April 16.

Princess Anne will attend the London Friends of St Loye's College's dinner in aid of the college at the Mansion House, on April 16.

Princess Anne, President of the British Olympic Association, will be present at a fund raising dinner at Trinity College, Cambridge, on April 17.

Princess Anne will be entertained at luncheon by the Sail Training Association at Packington Hall, Coventry, on April 18.

The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh will visit King Edward VII Hospital, Windsor, on April 18.

Princess Anne, President of the British Olympic Association, will attend a concert at the Dunstable Queensway Hall, Bedford, on April 18.

Princess Anne will open the new Samaritan House in Swindon, Wiltshire, on April 27.

Lord Frederick Windsor, son of Prince and Princess Michael of Kent, is five today.

Latest wills

Woman leaves £2.5m estate

Mrs Nona Renshaw, of Paddington, left estate valued at £2,502,708 net. She left £500 each to the Royal National Institute for the Blind and Dr Barnardo's.

Other estates include (net, before tax paid):

Ainley, Mr William Henry Sykes, of Driffield £318,669
Atkins, Professor Sir Hedley John Barnard, of Downe, Kent, a past president of the Royal College of Surgeons of England, emeritus Professor of Surgery in the University of London £92,304
Hembrow, Mr James George, of Honiton £211,831
Pierce, Mrs Auriol Dorothea Lane, of Gomshall, Surrey £364,572
Mason, Mr Stewart Carlton, of Woodbridge, director of Education for Leicestershire 1947 to 1971 .... £226,009
Pocock, Mr George Edward, of Pewsey, Wiltshire, farmer £246,682
Shepherd, Mr Ambrose Frederick, of Poulton-le-Fylde, Lancashire £326,354
Seddon, Lady, of Stanmore .... £245,542.
Sharman, Mr Brian, of Chigwell .... £310,962.
Rexford-Welch, Mrs Dorothy Eunice, of Streatham £346,964
Wright, Mrs Dorothy, of Weymouth £208,509

Sunningdale School

Mr Tupholme is retiring at the end of the Summer Term. A presentation will be made on Sports Day, June 16, when all old boys will be welcome. Those wishing to contribute should send their donations to the headmaster.



Latest appointments

Dom Patrick Barry OSB, aged 66 (above), who has been elected as Abbot of Ampleforth. He was headmaster of Ampleforth College from 1964-1980.

Other appointments include:

Mr Norman Walker, aged 53, deputy director and head of industrial relations of the Newspaper Society, to be the society's first full-time deputy director on May 1. Mr Christopher Carter, aged 41, deputy head of industrial relations, to be head of industrial relations.

Mr Robert Bryanton to be head of publications of the Royal Aeronautical Society.

Maurice Sheppard, aged 37, to be president of the Royal Society of Painters in Water Colours in succession to Mr Ernest Greenwood, who is retiring.

Miss Kate Ashbrook, aged 29, secretary of the Dartmoor Preservation Association, to be secretary of the Open Spaces Society.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr R. N. Knight and Miss C. Burdett Blackett

The engagement is announced between Rupert, eldest son of Mr and Mrs D. G. B. Knight, of Biddenden, Kent, and Cynthia, only daughter of the late Captain A. F. S. Burdett Blackett, of Arbigland, Kirkcudbrightshire, Scotland, and Mrs Burdett Blackett, now of Hurlingham, London.

Mr J. R. Roele and Miss L. G. van Hellenberg Hubar

The engagement is announced between Justus, younger son of Captain and Mrs J. R. Roele-Kraft van Ermel, of Orvilliers, France, and Loesje, twin daughter of Mr and Mrs L. J. van Hellenberg Hubar-van Bers, of 31 Egerton Crescent, London.

Mr K. van der Klugt and Miss D. E. Russell

The engagement is announced between Kees, son of Mr and Mrs S van der Klugt, of Greatham, Pulborough, Sussex, and Diana, daughter of Mr and Mrs E. A. Russell, of Upper Beeding, Sussex.

Marriages

Mr J. C. Grey and Miss R. Hall

The marriage took place at Mittagong Parish Church, New South Wales, on Saturday, March 31, between Mr Johnny Grey, son of Mr and Mrs Christopher Grey, and Miss Rebecca Hall, daughter of Mr Peter Hall and Mrs Libby Turner.

Mr W. M. Tullberg and Miss J. Wright

The marriage took place on Wednesday, April 4, in London, of Mr William Magnus Tullberg and Miss Jennifer Wright.



Lady Byers and Mr and Mrs Jeremy Thorpe leaving Westminster Abbey yesterday after the service of thanksgiving for the life and work of Lord Byers

Luncheons

HM Government
Mr Timothy Raison, Minister for Overseas Development, was host at a luncheon held at Admiralty House yesterday in honour of Dr Alois Mertes, Minister of State at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Federal Republic of Germany.

North of England TAVR Association
After a meeting of the North of England TAVR Association on April 2 a luncheon was held in Durham Castle to mark the retirement of Sir James Steel as president, Colonel the Duke of Northumberland as a vice-president, Colonel Viscount Ridley as chairman and Colonel W. F. Surtees as a vice-chairman of the association. The guests included Major-General Lord Michael Fitzalan Howard and Major-General and Mrs W. Bate. Colonel Lord Gisborough presided.

Loriners' Company
A court luncheon was held at Founders Hall yesterday after the quarterly court meeting of the Loriners' Company. The Master, Mr John R. Cunningham, presided and the other speakers were the Under Warden, Mr Douglas B. Hobday and Mr Edwin Stratton-Chistensen. The guests included Mr G. Pat Clancy, the Masters of the Farriers' and Painter-Stainers' Companies and Colonel I. A. Ferguson.

Butchers' Company
The Master of the Butchers' Company Mr John Brewster, presided at a court luncheon held at Butchers' Hall yesterday. The toast to the guests was proposed by Mr D. J. Noakes and Mr David Butcher, Clerk and Superintendent of Billingsgate Market, replied.

HM Government
Sir Geoffrey Howe, QC, Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, was host at a luncheon given at 1 Carlton Gardens yesterday in honour of the governor and unofficial members of the Executive Council of Hongkong.

Receptions

University College London
Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother attended a reception in the Faculty of Clinical Sciences, University College London, yesterday after opening the Lew Cohen Leukaemia Research Unit in the Department of Haematology. Among those present were:

The Provost, Vice-Provost (Medical) and Secretary of University College London; Lord Glenarthur, the Dean of the Faculty of Clinical Sciences, the heads of the Departments of Haematology, Medicine, Biochemical Pathology and Paediatrics; the Mayor of Camden, the President and Honorary Administrator of the Sportsman's Aid Society and the Chairman of the Trustees of the National Medical Research Fund.

Community Service Volunteers
The Lord Mayor was present at a reception at the Mansion House yesterday given for Community Service Volunteers to mark CSV Week 1984. Among the principal guests were Lord Windlesham and Lord Thompson of Monifieth.

Dinners

All England Lawn Tennis and Croquet Club
The Duke of Kent, president, proposed the toast of the guests at the annual dinner of the All England Lawn Tennis and Croquet Club, which was held at the Institute of Directors yesterday. Lord Scarman replied. Mr R. E. H. Hadingham, chairman of the club, presided.

Tylers' and Bricklayers' Company
The Lord Mayor, accompanied by the Sheriffs and their ladies, attended a ladies' dinner given by the Tylers' and Bricklayers' Company at Carpenters' Hall last night. Mr H. W. F. Fuller, Master, and Mrs Fuller received the guests and the speakers were the Lord Mayor, the Master, the Renter Warden, Dr R. G. Bird, and Miss Clare Fuller.

Isle of Wight Lieutenancy
The Lieutenancy for the County of Isle of Wight entertained the Lord Lieutenant, Sir John Nicholson Bt, at dinner at the Royal Yacht Squadron, Cowes on March 30. Those present were:

Lieutenant Colonel C R H Kindersley (Vice Lord Lieutenant), Sir Charles Baring, Bt, Major S C Selwyn, Rear-Admiral J L Blackham, Air Commodore I E Brodie, Colonel W J Eldridge, Mr S L Glossop, Mr R N Willis-Fleming, Air Commodore J M Birkin, Major-General Sir Robert Pigot, Bt, Lord Mottistone, Major-General O M Roome and Mr J. S Horsnell, clerk to the lieutenancy.

Old Stoic Society
The annual dinner of the Old Stoic Society will be held at the Hyde Park Hotel, Knightsbridge, on Thursday, May 3. The guest speaker will be Lord Annan. All members are welcome. Many former masters, spanning Stowe's 61 years, have accepted the society's invitation to attend. Tickets are £25 each. Applications, with cheques, should be sent immediately to The Local Secretary, Old Stoic Society, Stowe, Buckingham MK18 5EH.

Company of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales
Mr M. R. Harris, Master of the Company of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales, assisted by Sir Kenneth Cork, Senior Warden and Mr Alderman D. K. Rowe-Ham, Junior Warden, presided at a court dinner held at Merchant Taylors' Hall last night. Mr Alderman Allan Davis, Sir Kenneth Cork and Sir Hugh Cubitt also spoke. Among those present were:

Lord Benson, Lord Eden of Winton, the Hon Geoffrey Wilson, Sir Ian Morrow, Sir Ralph Bateman, Sir Gordon Borrie, Sir Douglas Morpeth, Sir Anthony Rawlinson, Sir Kenneth Sharp, the President of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales, the Masters of the Builders' Merchants', City of London Solicitors' and Barbers' companies; the President of the Institute of Bankers, the Editor of Accountancy Age, Mr J Moorhouse, MEP, and Mr C Brandon Gough.

Makers of Playing Cards Company
The Master of the Makers of Playing Cards Company, Mr R. G. W. Bray, presided at a court dinner held at Cutlers' Hall last night. The Senior Warden, Judge Argyle, QC, Mr T. S. Corrigan and Professor Norman Ashton, also spoke. Other guests included the Masters of the Cutlers and Tin Plate Workers companies and Sir David Willcocks.

Durbar Club
The members of the Durbar Club held their annual private dinner last night in the Viceroy of India Restaurant, W1. Nr Narindar Saroop, chairman of the club, presided.

Prime Minister
The Prime Minister was host at a dinner given at 10 Downing Street yesterday evening in honour of Dr Richard von Weizsaecker. The other guests were:

Dr A Mertes, the Ambassador for the Federal Republic of Germany, the Bishop of Oxford, Mr Malcolm Rifkind, MP; Lord Croham, Sir Humphrey Atkins, MP, Admiral Sir James Eberle, Sir Nicholas Henderson, Professor Sir Karl Popper, CH, Sir Bernard Braine, MP, Sir Hector Laing, Sir Robin Cooke, Sir Peter Walters, Herr G Z Steffens, Miss B Beck, Herr K Balzer, Dr G Coenen, Professor W Mommsen, Professor Michael Kaser, Mr Patrick Sheehy, Mr F E Newman, Mr Tom Normanton, MP, MEP, Mr Robert Rhodes James, MP, Mr Nigel Forman, MP, Mr Donald Anderson, MP, Mr Frank Chapple, Mr Gavin Laird, Mr John Thompson, Dr Roger Morgan, Mr M Balfour, Miss Mary Goldring, Mr M Rutherford, Mr Timothy Garton-Ash, Mr Peter Fraenkel, Mr John Hansford, Lt-General Sir David Mostyn, Sir Jock Taylor, Sir Julian Bullard and Mr John Coles.

Service dinner

Royal Corps of Transport
Officers of the Royal Corps of Transport held a dinner at the Royal Corps of Transport Headquarters Officers' Mess, Aldershot, last night. The Director-General of Transport and Movements, Major-General D. H. Braggins, presided. The principal guests included:

[illegible]

Memorial services

Lord Byers
The Queen was represented by Lord Lucas of Chilworth at a service of thanksgiving for the life of Lord Byers held in Westminster Abbey yesterday. The Dean of Westminster officiated, assisted by the Rev Alan Luff. The Rev Christopher Studdert-Kennedy and the Right Rev Edward Knapp-Fisher led the prayers. Lord Sieff of Brimpton, the Hon Charles Byers, son, and Mr David Steel, Leader of the Liberal Party, read the lessons. Lord Wigoder, QC, gave and address. The Rev H. G. C. Clarke, the Rev C. T. Mickem, the Rev Charles Taylor and the Rev Cameron Walker were robed and in the sacrarium. The Lord Chancellor was represented by Mr J. Sainty, Clerk of the Parliaments, and the Speaker by Mr Paul Dean, MP. The Lord Mayor of Westminster and Lord Home of the Hirsel attended. Others present included:

Lady Byers (widow), the Hon Mrs Charles Byers (daughter-in-law), Mr and the Hon Mrs Peter Gaff, Mr and the Hon Mrs Dipak Nandy and Mr and the Hon Mrs Simon Somers (sons-in-law and daughters), Jonathan and George Byers, James and Katy Malcolm and Francesca Nandy (grandchildren), Mrs J Grajnert (sister), Miss M E Oliver (sister-in-law), Mr P Ball, Mr and Mrs James Bunting, Mr Edward Bunting, Miss S Grajnert, Mr and Mrs A Sebastian, Mrs E Villet, Mrs J Mazouz, the Rev Kenneth Oliver

The Ambassador of Israel, the Duke of Portland, the Earl of Listowel, Earl and Countess St Aldwyn, the Countess of Avon, Earl Amherst, the Earl of Winchilsea, Earl Grey, the Earl of Swinton, Viscount Tonypandy, Viscount Whitelaw, CH, Viscount and Viscountess Simon, Viscount Thurso, Baroness Hylton-Foster, Lord Harris of Greenwich, Lord Reigate, Lady Janner, Baroness Elliot of Harwood, Lord Campbell of Alloway, QC, Lord McFadzean, Lord Stodart of Leaston, Lord Beloff, Lord Murton of Lindisfarne, Lord Ponsonby of Shulbrede, Lord Cledwyn of Penrhos, CH, Lord Mishcon, Lord Aberdare, Lord Diamond, Lord Elwyn-Jones, CH, Lord Carr of Hadley (Dr Bushy's Trust) with Sir Paul Wright, Baroness Trumpington, Lord Boston of Faversham, QC, Lord Lloyd of Kilgerran, QC, Lady Carrington, Lord Aylestone, CH, Baroness Llewelyn-Davies of Hastoe, Baroness Young, Lord Walston, Lord Greenhill of Harrow, Lord Denham, Lady Gore-Booth, Lord Belstead, Lord Chitnis, Lord Sainsbury, Lord Donaldson of Kingsbridge, Lord Weidenfeld, Lord Ampthill, Baroness Birk, Lord Vaizey, Baroness Seear, Lady Wigoder, Lord McNair, Lord and Lady Tordoff, Lord Ezra, Lord Rochester, Lord Banks, Lord Evans of Claughton, Baroness Robson of Kiddington, Lord Airedale, Lord Tanlaw, Lord Grimond, Lord Ogmore, Lord Mowbray and Stourton, Lord and Lady Gladwyn, Lord and Lady Mackie of Benshie, Lord Goodman, CH, Lord Irving of Dartford (chairman of trustees, Industry and Parliament Trust) with Air Vice-Marshal Alec Maisner (director) and Mr Alan Eden-Green.

Sir Humphrey Atkins, MP, Mr and Mrs Jeremy Thorpe, the Hon Greville Janner, QC, MP, the Hon Terence Prittie, the Hon Mark Bonham Carter, the Hon Jacob Rothschild, Sir Graham Rowlandson, Lady Ross, Sir Walter Salomon, Sir Anthony Kershaw, MP, and Lady Kershaw, Air Chief Marshal Sir David and Lady Lee, Lady (Dingle) Foot, Lady de Freitas, Colonel Sir Ronald Gardner-Thorpe, Sir John Barnes, Sir Alan Campbell, Sir Maurice and Lady Dorman, Major Sir Peter Daniell (representing the Lord Lieutenant of Surrey), Sir Edgar Williams, Mr John Attenborough, Mrs Nevile Blond, Miss Mary Brassey, Mr Alan Campbell-Johnson, Mr Richard Davies, Professor N Deakin, Mr John Baker, Air Vice-Marshal A D Dick, Mr Emrys Roberts, Mrs James de Rothschild, Mrs J Thorpe

Dr John Rae, Mrs Oliver Scott, Dr R W J Keay, Mr B W Lofthouse, Mr Brian McCabe, Mrs C A Prendergast, Mr A A Pelling, Mr Ian Harvey, Mrs Michael Hill, Mr Roy Wright, Dr J Walsh, Mrs Lynda Chalker, MP, Mr Alan Beith, MP, Mr Richard Wainwright, MP, Mr Alex Carlisle, MP, Mr Michael Meadowcroft, MP, Mr Simon Hughes, MP, Mr David Alton, MP, Mr John Reed (Royal Jubilee Trusts), Mr C B Mercer (Anglo-Israel Association), Mrs J Taunton (Inland Waterways Association), Mrs J M Robbins (College of Occupational Therapists) and representatives of Marks and Spencer and the National Liberal Club.

Mr E. I. Halliday
A memorial service for Mr Edward Irvine Halliday was held at St James's, Piccadilly, yesterday. The Very Rev William Baddeley officiated and Ms Adrian Edwards read the lesson. Sir Hugh Casson, President of the Royal Academy of Arts, read from "The Gentle Art of Making Enemies", by James McNeill Whistler. Wing Commander Martin Edwards gave an address. Members of the London Orpheus Choir, conducted by Mr James Gaddarn, sang In Paradisum from Fauré's Requiem. Among those present were:

Mr Stephen Halliday (son), Miss Charlotte Halliday (daughter), Mrs Adrian Stungo.

The Duke of Richmond and Gordon, Lord and Lady O'Brien of Lothbury, Lord Pender, Camilla Lady Pender, Lord and Lady Cobbold, Lord Adeane, Lady Widgery, Sir Denys Buckley, the Hon Mrs Zoe Flower, Sir Bernard Waley-Cohen, Lieutenant-General Sir James Baird (representing Royal Army Medical Corps) and Lady Baird, Sir John Tilney, Lady Monnington, Sir David Smithers, Sir Gilbert and Lady Inglefield, Sir Geoffrey Agnew, Sir Ian Trethowan, Lady Hart, Lady Russell, Lady Duke Elder, Princess de Mahe, Mr Norman Blamey, RA, Mr Bernard Dunstan, RA, Mr Norman Hepple, RA, Mr Willi Soukop, RA, Mr Donald Hamilton Fraser, Mr Sidney Hutchison, Mr M Fry, Mrs Martin Edwards, Mrs Adrian Edwards, Mr Leslie Mitchell, Mr Anthony de Minoprio (British School at Rome) and Mrs de Minoprio, Mr Bernard Hailstone, Mr Keith Shackleton, Mrs Andrew Cruickshank, Mr Brian Johnston, Mr David Gentleman, Mrs P Reeve, Mr Raymond Mason, Miss Celia Hensman, Mrs M Adams, Miss Sally Adams, Mr Andrew Scott, Mr John Scott, Colonel John Burns, Mr G J D Bruce (Royal Society of Portrait Painters), Mr Leslie Worth (Royal Society of Water Colour Painters), Mr Stuart Rose (Arts Club), Mr Carl de Winter (Federation of British Artists), Mr Terence Miles (Artists General Benevolent Institution) with Mr Harold George, Mr Edward Bishop (New England Art Club), Mr A R Childs (Artists Club, Liverpool), Mr David Wainwright (Liverpool College), Mr and Mrs John Griffin, Mr James Griffin, Miss Julia Griffin, Mrs Charles Lutyens, Mr and Mrs Ivor Evans, Mrs E de Biro, Mr and Mrs Archie Crawford, Mr and Mrs John Street, Mrs Chloe Tickell, Mr J V Cohen, Miss Sylvia Darley, Mr Maurice Bradshaw, Mr Anthony Lloyd, Mr Anthony West, Mr and Mrs Nicholas Drummond, Mr and Mrs Michael Noakes, Mr Richard Need, Mr Richard Moss, Miss Dorothy Lakeman, Mr and Mrs Leonard Boden, Mr Norman Tanersall, Mrs Ivor Forde, Mr Keith Grant-Peterkin, Mr and Mrs T H Southerton, Mr John Yeoman, Mr and Mrs Leonard Boden, Mr Brian Thomas, Mrs Ian Leslie, and Mr A P Whitaker.

Birthdays today

Miss Joan Carlyle, 53; Mr Bernard Carter, 64; Admiral Sir Desmond Dreyer, 74; Mr Julian Faber, 67; Mr Willis Hall, 55; Vice-Admiral Sir Charles Hughes-Hallett, 86; Dr David Ingram, 57; Sir Philip Moore, 63; Miss Felicity Palmer, 40; Lord Newton, 69; the Duke of Northumberland, 70; the Rev Ian Paisley, MP, 58; Mr André Previn, 55; Lord Winterbottom, 71; the Most Rev Dr Frank Woods, 77.

Brantwood go-ahead

The trustees of John Ruskin's home at Brantwood, on Coniston Water, are to go ahead with a £1m conversion of the house and buildings into what will become the "National Ruskin Centre". A feasibility study by Northern Arts has recommended such a development, for which an appeal fund will be launched in June.

Science report

Search for vaccine to prevent fertilization

By Thomson Prentice, Science Correspondent

A contraceptive vaccine which prevents fertilization, many feel, would be of enormous benefit, particularly to the undernourished and overpopulated Third World. The search for such a vaccine requires unravelling a labyrinth of difficulties, but significant progress is being made.

Some of that work is being done by scientists at the Centre for Reproductive Biology, funded by the Medical Research Council, at the University of Edinburgh. The unit, which was formed 12 years ago, studies and develops approaches to contraception and treatments for infertility and other reproductive problems.

Already, the unit has helped to construct a detailed picture of how the brain uses Luteinizing hormone releasing hormone (LHRH) to control the pituitary gland and thereby the reproductive system.

Treatments have been developed for delayed puberty and some forms of infertility, employing pumps for the pulsatile injection of LHRH, and those pumps are now in worldwide use.

The response of the pituitary gland to LHRH is far more complex than was initially envisaged. Pulses at an appropriate frequency will drive the gland into action, but continuous exposure leads to desensitization.

Given twice a day by nasal spray, LHRH provides a potential form of contraception for men and women, but unfortunately by removing gonadal steroids, it reduces libido and promotes hot flushes. Pilot studies by the unit suggest that the spray may have other uses, however, for example in the treatment of severe premenstrual tension syndrome.

An important thrust of the unit's work, particularly that of the director, Dr Dennis W. Lincoln and Dr A. S. McNeilly, concerns the study of how, during breast feeding, the sucking of the baby inhibits the LHRH pulse generator and promotes lactational infertility, nature's "contraceptive".

Dr Lincoln said: "Our quest in this area is to understand how that neurogenic stimulus provided by the infant switches off the generator. There may be a way of exploiting that mechanism to produce a form of contraception in lactating and non-lactating women."

The search for a contraceptive vaccine has reached the stage at the unit where Dr R. J. Aitken has rendered marmosets infertile for periods of one year by immunization.

The antibodies produced probably prevent the spermatozoa from gaining access to the egg. Immunization had no effect on the ovarian cycle or sexual behaviour, and fertility returned when the antibody titres waned.

Other immunological approaches are being pursued around the world. The pursuit of gamete specific antigens for immunization has the advantage that they would act before fertilization and not by induction of abortion.

At the research level there are possibilities for extracting the antigens, or in the longer term, synthesizing them by genetic engineering. A vaccine may be 10 or 15 years away and would be suitable only as a postfamily contraceptive, in that it would be irreversible. But it would prevent fertilization without affecting hormone patterns and changing the sexuality of the individual.

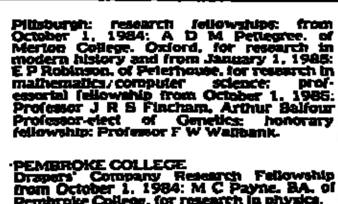
Source: *Medical Research Council News* (No 22) March, 1984.

University news



Oxford

Awards and elections
Susan Mary Rouse Memorial Prize, 1984: C G Clumel, Wadham College; proxime accessit, Sarah J Begin, Somerville College. Conington Prize, 1984: D P Fowler, Jesus College, and M Heath, Merton College. Curzon Memorial Prize: W V Jessup, Balliol College. Shelley-Mills Prize, 1984: Polly A Coles, Mansfield College.
NUFFIELD COLLEGE: Sir Reginald Hibbert, Director, Ditchley Foundation, to a visiting fellowship; J J M Kremers (MSc Bristol), Gwilym Gibbon Prize Research Fellow; Elizabeth S McRae (MA, Toronto), Open Prize Research Fellow; J Mickle-wright (BA, Lond), Heyworth Memorial Prize Research Fellow; Deborah B Posel (BA, Witwatersrand), Gwilym Gibbon Prize Research Fellow; C Thain (BA, Manchester), prize research fellow.
ST EDMUND HALL: Susan L Hurley, AB (Princeton), BPhil, MA, DPhil, junior research fellow at All Souls, to an official fellowship and tutorship in philosophy from January 1, 1985.



Cambridge

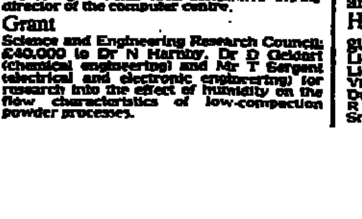
College elections
CHRIST'S COLLEGE
Junior research fellowships from February 8, 1984: R F W Jackson, BA (Clare College) and A I Lamond, BSc (Glasgow).

DARWIN COLLEGE
Official fellowship from March 5, 1984: P N Johnson-Laird, PhD (London), assistant director of MRC unit of applied psychology; Adrian Research Fellowship in Economics from February 27, 1984: J Ghosh, PhD (Churchill College).

FITZWILLIAM COLLEGE
Fellowship in Class A from February 18, 1984: Dr A Clark, assistant registrar in the University Registry; Fellowship in Class C from October 1, 1984: T T Kouzarides, Frank Taylor Exhibition: M T Viner, The Gilberd School, Colchester (in history).

NEW HALL
Pre-elections. Into a Kitson Clark Research Fellowship for work on earth sciences for three years from October 1, 1984: P J Barton, MA PhD, of New Hall and Darwin College; into a Lady Margaret Research Fellowship for work in classics for three years from October 1, 1984: C J Osborne, BA, PhD, of King's College; as a Clothworkers' Company Schoolmistress Commoner Fellow for Easter Term, 1984: Mrs C Lewis BA (London), Truro HS; as a Salters' Company Schoolmaster Commoner Fellow for Easter Term 1984: A Myers, MSc (London), Philip Morant School, Colchester

PETERHOUSE
Bye-Fellowship from October 1, 1985: S Pellegrino university assistant lecturer in engineering; official fellowship from February 6, 1984: Dr H T Croft, university lecturer in pure mathematics and mathematical statistics; Fellow Commonership from April 15, 1984 for three months: Professor W Hugh Woodin, California Institute of Technology; visiting fellowships: September, 1984 to May, 1985: Professor How-Ghee Ang, National University of Singapore, and Michaelmas Term, 1985: Professor H Kearney, University of Pittsburgh: research fellowships: from October 1, 1984: A D M Pettegree, of Merton College, Oxford, for research in modern history and from January 1, 1985: E P Robinson, of Peterhouse, for research in mathematics/computer science; professorial fellowship from October 1, 1985: Professor J R S Fincham, Arthur Balfour Professor-elect of Genetics; honorary fellowship: Professor F W Walbank.



PEMBROKE COLLEGE
Drapers' Company Research Fellowship from October 1, 1984: M C Payne, BA, of Pembroke College, for research in physics.

ST CATHARINE'S COLLEGE
Research fellowship for three years from October 1, 1984, in engineering: S J Gallimore, BA.

ST JOHN'S COLLEGE
Professorial fellowship from January 1, 1985: P Dasgupta, BA (Trinity College), PhD (Trinity Hall), professor of economics from January 1, 1985; professorial fellowship from October 1, 1988, to September 30, 1986: P Temin, BA (Swarthmore College, Penn), PhD (MIT), Pitt Professor-elect of American History and Institutions.

SELWYN COLLEGE
Trevelyan Research Fellowship from October 1, 1984: N J Marston, BA; fellowship and college lectureship in physical chemistry from October 1, 1984: J H Keeler, BA, to a chaplaincy and fellowship from October 1, 1984: the Rev H D Potter, MA, MPhil.

SIDNEY SUSSEX COLLEGE
Junior research fellowships from October 1, 1984: P G McHugh, LLB (Wellington), LLM (Saskatchewan), Evan Lewis-Thomas Law Student of the College: J P Russell, MA (Edinburgh), of St John's College.

Strathclyde
Mr Hugh G. Thomson, managing director of Integrated Micro Applications Ltd (INMAP), Edinburgh, has been appointed director of research and development services.

Bradford
Lecturers: R P Chhabra, BE, ME, PhD (chemical engineering).
Research fellows: V Hanell, PhD (chemical engineering) from Jan 1, 1985, to Dec 31, 1985 (SERC visiting fellowship); M Lech, MSc, DSc (control engineering) from April 1, 1984, to February 28, 1985 (SERC visiting fellowship); Mrs B B Michniak-Mickolajczak, BSc, PhD (pharmaceutical technology) from Jan 23, 1984, to Jan 22, 1988 (funded by Pharmacia AB, Sweden)
Professor R A J Ord-Smith has been designated professor of computer science and director of the computer centre, and Dr S J Houghton has been designated deputy director of the computer centre.

Grant
Science and Engineering Research Council: £40,000 to Dr N Harnby, Dr D Geldart (chemical engineering) and Mr T Sergent (electrical and electronic engineering) for research into the effect of humidity on the flow characteristics of low-compaction powder processes.

OBITUARY

MR OLEG ANTONOV

Designer of Russian transport aircraft

Oleg Konstantinovich Antonov, who died on April 4 at the age of 78, was one of the Soviet Union's foremost aircraft designers, and his bureau based at Kiev produced some of the most successful transport types for civil and military uses in Russia in the years following the war.

Born near Moscow on February 7, 1906, Antonov graduated from the Leningrad Polytechnic Institute and began professional life as a designer at a glider factory where he was to remain for many years. His A1 became the standard single seat elementary trainer and was followed by a range of sailplanes culminating in the high performance A10 in which a world record for a "straight line" glider flight of 829.82 km was set by a Soviet pilot in 1953.

After the war Antonov was appointed general designer in charge of the bureau whose aircraft all bear his name. Over a period of twenty years the Antonov bureau addressed itself to the design of transport aircraft of all types ranging from the antiquated looking AN 2 to the gigantic AN 22.

In spite of its archaic appearance, the AN 2 which was a large biplane, may well have been the design which earned Antonov and his collaborators their 10,000 rouble Stalin Prize in 1952, as by that time it had shown itself capable of remarkable adaptability. Amongst other features a minimum speed of only 40 mph, it was able to serve variously as a passenger aircraft, paratroop trainer, communications aircraft, forestry patrol plane and crop sprayer, while other versions were deployed on meteorological research and as float planes.

The AN 10 "Ukraina" was the bureau's notable turboprop airliner of its period, and the AN 12 a highly successful cargo workhorse, a medium transport much seen in service among the Soviet Union's allies and friends.

The massive AN 22 long range transport caused a sensation when it appeared at the Paris air show in 1965 on account of its great size and payload which earned it the nickname Antaeus. In spite of these features it was in common with all the Antonov designs, able to use short and makeshift runways, and could operate from grass strips.

Much decorated, and valued for his experience, Antonov last month called for radical changes in the Soviet economy to place an emphasis on quality as well as quantity.

M JEAN PROUVÉ

M. Jean Prouvé, who has died in Nancy at the age of 82, was a self-taught French engineer whose pioneer work on the use of industrialized techniques in building had a lasting influence on the architecture of the whole Western world, both through his researches and through the example set by a number of buildings, mostly in France, in whose design he played a dominant part.

Jean Prouvé was born in Paris on April 8, 1901, the son of the painter Victor Prouvé. He trained as a metal-worker, and from 1922 to 1954 earned his living with the help of a metal-furniture factory he established and managed at Nancy.

In the meantime he was experimenting with new forms of prefabricated building construction, especially in pressed metal, and gaining a growing reputation as an inventor of new structural methods and techniques. His favourite material was sheets of metal crimped and folded to add to their strength, but more generally he advocated, and helped the architects with whom he collaborated to achieve, a closer relationship between building and the processes of manufacturing building components.

The Roland Garros flying club at Buc, which he designed in 1937 in conjunction with the architects Beaudouin and Lods and which was dismantled by the Germans during their occupation of France, has been called the first totally industrialized building.

In 1954 Prouvé set up in practice in Paris as a building consultant and worked with various architects, including Le Corbusier, on designs for factory-built housing and industrial and exhibition structures, continuing at the same time to elaborate the methods he had devised of building efficiently and economically with prefabricated metal components while preserving architectural quality and individuality.

His work was recognized in other countries than France by the award to him of honorary Doctorates by the Ecole Polytechnique at Lausanne in 1969 and by the University of Stuttgart in 1976. In 1972 he was elected a member of the Académie d'Architecture in Paris.

In the Second World War Prouvé was in the French Army and later worked with the Resistance. He was appointed Chevalier of the Legion d'Honneur in 1950 and promoted to Officer in 1975. He was also appointed, in 1958, Chevalier of the Belgian Order of Leopold.

In 1924 he married Madelaine Schott. They had five daughters.

MR COMINS MANSFIELD

Colin Russ writes:

With Comins Mansfield's death on March 28 at his home in Devon the British chess community has lost an illustrious member. His eminence was achieved not in the arena of the game itself but in the more private world of chess problems composition.

Born in Witheridge, Devon, on June 14 1896, he was educated at Blundell's School, Tiverton. After service in France (1916–18), during which he was gassed, he returned to a successful career with the tobacco company of W. D. and H. O. Wills.

At this time he was helping to found the British Chess Problem Society, of which he later became President. His creative activity extended over seventy years, resulting in a treasury of some thousand compositions, nearly all of the type "White mates in two", of which he was the doyen in this country.

His problems reveal accomplished construction, fertility of imagination, and mastery of strategic effects. He remained distrustful of certain esoteric aspects of modern compositional trends, but his own work never appeared dated.

Of his writings on chess problems, his book *Adventures in Composition* deserves special mention for its technical insights and its reflection of his genial personality. In 1972 he, two Russians and a Dutchman received from FIDE (the World Chess Federation) the newly created title of Grandmaster for Chess Composition. At this time no British chess *player* enjoyed Grandmaster status. His achievement was further recognized by his appointment as MBE in 1976.

If his pleasing art is one of the minor ones, he was unquestionably among its major practitioners, inspiring affectionate admiration around the world.

He is survived by his wife Marjorie Erica, whom he married in 1923, and by their sons Geoffrey and Roderick and their daughter Hilary.

MISS HILDA MURRELL

Charles Sinker writes:

Miss Hilda Murrell, who died near Shrewsbury on March 21, was a rose-grower of international repute and an ardent conservationist. A highly intelligent and charmingly eccentric woman of strong opinions, she was loved and respected by a wide circle of friends including many who did not necessarily share her beliefs.

Hilda Murrell was born in 1906, and educated at Shrewsbury High School and Newnham College, Cambridge, where she read English, French and History.

Her father and his elder brother Edwin had founded the rose nursery which was to become so well-known. Hilda joined the firm and worked hard to develop her horticultural and business skills. In its final years the company was under her sole management, until she sold it to Percy Thrower in 1970 and retired.

She was an authority on rose species, old varieties and miniature roses. In her time Murrell's regularly won gold awards at Chelsea and Southport Flower Shows as well as at Shrewsbury, and she sold roses and made friends in many parts of Europe.

Her deep love and concern for the countryside and wildlife of the Welsh Marches made her an active founder-member of the Shropshire Conservation Trust in 1962, and she also worked with vigorous dedication for the Shropshire Branch of the Council for the Protection of Rural England.

Her close friends remember her as a fierce but fundamentally gentle warrior, a Bunyan-like soul on a lonely and constant quest for the real path of the spirit.

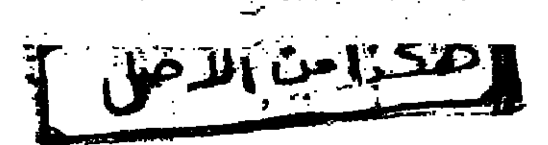
She died in tragic circumstances, alone in the empty countryside. It is an almost intolerable irony that a life so dedicated to peaceful pursuits, and to the pursuit of peace, should have been terminated by an act of mindless violence.

SIR MARK MILBANK

Sir Mark Milbank, Bt, KCVO, MC, who was Master of the Queen's Household from 1954 to 1967, and as such responsible for her private entertaining, died at his home at Barnigham, in Yorkshire, on April 4 at the age of 77.

He was born on January 11, 1907, and after education at Eton went to the Royal Military College, Sandhurst, and on into the Coldstream Guards. From 1933 to 1938 he was ADC to the Governor of Bombay. In 1939 he rejoined the Coldstream Guards, which he had left in 1936, and rose to the rank of major, winning the MC in 1944.

After the war he went to Canada in 1946 as Comptroller to the Governor General, and remained there until 1952. He became Master of the Household two years later, and at the same time Extra Equerry to the Queen.



THE ARTS

Cinema

Magical fragment of remembrance

Swann in Love (18)
Lumière

Due to an Act of God (15)
Everyman, Hampstead

The Country Girls (PG)
Minema

City of Lost Souls
ICA Cinema

High Road to China (PG)
Odeon Marble Arch

Proust has long been the film-makers Everest. Years ago Visconti planned an assault; then Joseph Losey and Harold Pinter mounted an expedition, but only reached base camp – a published screenplay. The ascent has finally been made by Volker Schlöndorff in **Swann in Love**; and it is an international flag he has placed precariously at the peak. He is German; the screenplay is a collaboration by Peter Brook, Jean-Claude Carrière and Marie-Hélène Estienne; and the stars, Jeremy Irons and Ornella Muti, are English and Italian.

At his press show Schlöndorff, disarmingly, asked that his film should not be viewed as Proust, but as a movie. Jean-Claude Carrière puts it differently: *"Remembrance of Things Past* is one of the great works of literature, and there is no reason why it should not be used as a source like Shakespeare or Balzac. Everyone should feel free to glean there whatever interests him or affects him. Great works of art are bountiful."

This is a fragment of a fragment. It is derived from the section of *Swann's Way* called "Swann in Love", but the action is compressed into 24 hours of Swann's life, a day in which he pursues the object of his obsessive passion, the courtesan Odette de Crécy, and a night in which his jealousy reaches a morbid peak and which ends with his "possessing" her.

The morning afterwards he congratulates himself that the obsession is conquered; the cynical Baron de Charlus inquires when the marriage will be. Taking a passage from elsewhere in the novel cycle, and a hint from Proust ("... this surprising epilogue, written, it seemed, as if from heaven ..."), we have a final glimpse of Swann, dying, ostracized by this unwise marriage from the society he loved.

All that has led up to this day's events is merely suggested, in flashbacks, with the seduction in the carriage (the gambit for the whole game of love is provided by an orchid at Odette's breast) as a recurrent motive. The novel provides much of the dialogue; and the film painstakingly realizes Proust's descriptions of places and people and gestures: the dubious habitués of the Verdurins' salon, the little embraces that Odette uses to evade Swann's jealous inquisitions.

To its credit, the film is not merely a series of illustrations to the book: it provides its own *post facto* commentaries. The obverse of the precious salon life is revealed in the gross brothel scene; and Swann's predilection for sodomy is seen as concomitant to his erotic morbidity. Servants, too, play a special role in this interpretation of Proust's world: the masters seem like children in the hands of the coachman who watches over Swann, the valet who puts on his shirt or the maid who washes Odette.

The exquisite putrescence of this remembered past is recreated with exemplary care in the marvellous detail of Jacques Saulnier's sets and Yvonne Sassinot de Nesle's breathtaking costumes (set off by some of Cartiers' special treasures). Sven Nykvist's photography unerringly traces the passage of the day, from the scorching midday sun at Bagatelle to the nocturnal chill, as Swann wanders the streets in the humiliation of jealousy. Hans Werner Henze's score follows Proust's own suggestions, with its acknowledgments to Fauré, Franck and Saint-Saëns.

Jeremy Irons is cleverly cast as Swann. He has an ideal face for the period, and his air of adolescent anguish well suits Swann's egotistical obsession with possession. Like the film itself it can only indicate a fragment of Proust's whole; but it is a representative fragment. Ornella Muti's Odette is, by contrast, more elusive than, perhaps, is intended. The outstanding performance is Alain Delon's Baron de Charlus, whose vain pursuit of an ideal homosexual love is used as parallel and commentary to Swann's own obsession. Carefully modelled in physical aspect on the original for Charlus, Robert de Montesquiou, with dyed hair and clownish pallor, the creature touches a moment of tragedy with the conflict of ideals and desires. Fanny Ardant is too briefly seen as a cool and ravishing Duchesse de Guermantes.



Avoiding the jealous inquisition: Jeremy Irons and Ornella Muti in *Swann in Love*

Nuclear terror looks like being a recurrent theme in films, and Rainer Boldt's **Due to an Act of God** is one of the most effective examples in the genre to date. It has the added distinction of having been cancelled by a West German television network on the grounds of being too "political" in content. It is set in the near future. An accident on a fast autobahn results in spillage of a load of radioactive waste. The authorities and the army try to hush up the incident and seal off the contaminated area.

The strength of the film is the unmelodramatic realism with which it is done. The people of the contaminated village are as ordinary as the soldiers and policemen who dutifully carry out the orders from above. The escalating nightmare is made out of the ordinary processes of bureaucracy and civil defence routines. The neat little hamlet, dominated by its church and led by its mayor, has still a medieval atmosphere, and there is a touch of horror in that, too: the idea of nuclear menace as the new Black Death.

The Country Girls had its première on television, but it merits second viewing, and the extra asset of the large screen. This is the third time Desmond Davis has adapted Edna O'Brien stories (previously he made *The Girl With Green Eyes* and *I Was Happy Here*); and, with the author as scriptwriter, it is certainly the most successful.

It is an Irish *My Brilliant Career*, the early adventures of a clever country girl from a difficult home (mother dead, father drunk) who undergoes her first experiences of education, of life and of the disappointments of love. The central character is touchingly and unsentimentally played by an excellent newcomer, Maeve Germaine, with Jill Doyle no less engaging as her friend, an incorrigible minx, naughty, mean yet still likable. Sam Neill (who actually played the equivalent role in *My Brilliant Career*), is her first love, and cleverly imitates the contradictions of the sophisticated paedophile, at once incautious and cowardly. The period – the austere early Fifties – is suggested effortlessly and with bittersweet nostalgia.

Rosa von Praunheim (*né* Holger Mischwitzki) is the chronicler of the gay underground of Berlin. **City of Lost Souls** is his most ambitious effort, a transvestite/transsexual musical, centred on the bizarre staff of a fictitious low dive called The Hamburger Queen. It is a curious mixture of tedium, comedy and sub-Warhol episodes, redeemed by the evident affection of the director for his eccentrics and the undoubted talent of Angie Stardust and comic gifts of Jayne County.

There is not much, on the other hand, to redeem **High Road to China**, directed by Brian G. Hutton, a period adventure story. The crass script sacrifices all narrative sense or character motiviation to the need to hustle the action (including the flying displays in vintage aircraft) from one exotic Yugoslav location to another.

David Robinson

Concerts

Engaging advocacy

YMSO/Adey
St John's

Quietly and doggedly, and with little pomp or circumstance, it is, also, Martinů's year. The twenty-fifth anniversary of his death has prompted a month of his symphonies, played by five different youth orchestras at Smith Square. On Wednesday the Young Musicians' Symphony Orchestra provided the exuberant penultimate concert.

Rather like an author whose books have a way of frequenting remainder shops, Martinů seems at the moment to need the advocacy of a bargain label: buy the score, we are urged, and get the record free or, still better, buy six scores and get a free boxed set. Martinů himself, sitting among his own enormous output, cared rather less about its performance and reception. This perhaps is one pointer to its need for external persuasion: its engaging unmemorability only rarely manages to convince us of its real necessity.

The Second Symphony, written in 1943 for the Cleveland Orchestra, pays tribute to their clear, bright textures and lively soloists. Even in the shimmering warmth of the St John's acoustic, the delicate, whirring activity of fragmented ideas, the frolicking interplay of solo and tutti, rather as in a concerto grosso, was whisked into bracing and stylish life by Christopher Adey. From the oscillating modality of the Andante to the metre-intoxicated march, with its fine trumpet laser beam, it was to the players' credit that, while no distinctive buds or leaves ever appeared, neither was there a moment of dead wood.

It is perhaps not too fanciful to sense within this exhilaration a breeze of New World air, a scent which also permeates the Diversions on a theme for piano (left hand) which Britten composed just three years earlier on the same continent. Marking time, as it were, between the *Canadian Carnival* and the Michelangelo Sonnets, it is a prolix yet ceaselessly inventive imaginative wandering through the most unpromising of original themes: a perfect example of the young Britten's assimilation and facilitous metamorphosis of the music he loved. For it was unashamedly Ravel's image that flickered, danced, and was teased away in the responsive single hand of Benjamin Hill.

Exile of a different nature had been celebrated earlier: the heady encounter of a northern European with the tingling, taunting air of Italy was captured in a vigorous and properly hedonistic performance of Elgar's Overture *In the South*.

Hilary Finch

LSO/Hickox
Barbican

Understandably, Beethoven's C major Mass remains somewhat overshadowed by its big brother, the *Missa Solemnis*. But comparison is surely unfair, for while the later work aspires to, and attains, unprecedented spiritual sublimity the earlier one remains solidly earthbound, even vulgar. Perhaps that is due to the fact that it was written in the shadow of Haydn's last masses, and for the same patron. To match Haydn's achievement, all Beethoven could do was brashly to be himself.

Yet unquestionably the C major Mass remains a great work, for all its sometimes outrageous daring. Jarring moments abound: harmonies go wildly astray and often things happen that seem in purely musical terms wholely unrelated to anything. How such a piece manages to retain its momentum is beyond me, but it does.

The London Symphony Chorus and Orchestra, directed by Richard Hickox, gave a suitably forthright account, though in the louder passages the sound of the singers very nearly obliterated that of the players – more to do with the acoustic than any serious imbalance of forces. Sometimes the sopranos strayed from the note when under pressure, but the girlish sound they cultivate conveyed an apt enthusiasm. Of the soloists, Sheila Armstrong was in outstanding form, commanding in both musicianship and sheer sound quality. In comparison Helen Watts seemed rather subdued, while Philip Langridge sporadically showed too much tension and occasionally John Tomlinson forced his hugely resonant bass a little too far.

Stravinsky's *Symphony of Psalms* is a work whose more objective ritualism calls for a slightly more detached performance than it received here. Nevertheless the chorus once again proved themselves usually equal to its demands, and only when the textures became really thin did a sense of insecurity creep in.

Dvorak's attractive *Te Deum*, the last piece of church music that he wrote, began the evening arrestingly with several jubilant thwacks on the timpani. For a while it seemed that we were off on a jolly sleigh ride, with triangle and cymbals adding to the glittery atmosphere. But deeper things soon followed, even if the awe of the third section, "Aeterna fac", could hardly match that contained in Beethoven's masterpiece.

Stephen Pettitt

Television

Imitations in loathsomeness

If They'd Asked For a Lion Tamer (Channel 4) was concerned with that abiding English obsession, the man in drag. Dave Dale has impersonated everyone from Widow Twankey to Liza Minnelli, with various stops *en route*. Customs have changed, of course, in the period marked out by these two great theatrical dames and, instead of pantomime or spectacle, Mr Dale seems to have entered the area of homosexual psychodrama.

He traced the course of his life from Southend pier to various subfusc clubs, complete with a performace as both schoolboy and a "bitch" of an art-mistress who once attempted to teach him. In fact he imitated may of the women he disliked – which is certainly a better way to manage such things than by becoming Jack the Ripper. At least he does not dress as his mother, who made a slightly bewildered cameo appearance; it seems that she thinks the world of him, which is perhaps just as well.

There are those who believe that drag is really a male attack upon the female, but most women will no doubt be able to withstand the assault of a monstrosity with pink hair and enough make-up to plaster the windows of the Pompidou Centre. It seemed much more likely, in any case, that Mr Dale would attack other male homosexuals – they do not, he explained, find drag performers particularly attractive. Perhaps he *ought* to have become a lion tamer, if only for their sake. Some of his material was very funny, and I would gladly have swapped his reflections on life for more of his stage act. There are millions of homosexuals, after all, but very few good performers. Mr Dale would like to appear in *Coronation Street* – now that the role of Ena Sharples is vacant, perhaps he has a chance.

Caught in a Free State (Channel 4) was set in Ireland during the Second World War, and offered yet another opportunity for the old Nazi costumes to be dragged out of the wardrobe department, for the funny accents to be adopted and the "78" records to be played. This series is slightly different, however, since it involves the IRA and the German infiltration of Ulster. These events are now so distant that most people can only be nostalgic for the original nostalgia – although the spectacle of rubicund farmers and sympathetic IRA patriots is perhaps too thick for even the least jaded palate. The tone veered between history and comedy – Aristotle would not have liked it and neither, I suspect, will the average viewer.

Peter Ackroyd

Theatre

Benefactors
Vaudeville

With *Noises Off* transatlantically celebrated as the funniest play within living memory, Michael Frayn has good reason to turn away from the theatre of laughter; but the direction he has taken in *Benefactors* nevertheless comes as a shock.

Opening in the buoyant Sixties and running downhill all the way, the piece centres on the career and private life of David: an architect professionally slogging his guts out to build a high-rise development in south London, and personally acting the selfless good-neighbour for his problem friends, Colin and Sheila, from over the road. As public opinion turns increasingly against tower blocks, so the neighbours dig deeper into the lives of David and his wife Jane until, by an ultimate reversal, Colin abandons his family to squat on the site and lead demonstrations against his benefactor's threatened skyscrapers.

Put like that, you would expect nothing but a comedy. These are the kind of people we have been laughing at for years in the Marc and Posy Symonds cartoons, not to mention playwrights of the "how we live now school". But in *Benefactors* they are not held up to ridicule in the expected ironic vein.

Frayn's method of wiping the slate clean consists partly of a shift in narrative focus. Instead of naturalistic action, the story is divided between present-tense events and retrospective story-telling, shared out between the four members of the company. This has the effect of requesting your sympathy for each of them, and substituting an appeal for understanding for the pleasures of suspense and surprise. And thanks in part to the superlative casting of Michael Blakemore's production, and Michael Annals's highly-focused set, the approach does succeed in opening up cartoon characters and reconnecting them to the pain that gave birth to comic stereotype in the first place.

Oliver Cotton's David, flashing around the place in his corduroy suit, totally confident that his talent and earning power are serving the interests of the community, suffers a devastating blow when he discovers Colin to be a personal enemy. Fighting with planning committees is the only kind of hostility he can understand.

The disenchantment of his wife is more gradual. Patricia Hodge begins as his totally loyal and limitlessly hospitable ally, and, to whatever absurdly disproportionate acts that leads, it is painful to see her charitable features hardening into arid, solitary suspicion.

Tim Pigott-Smith, a destructive force from his first appearance, develops in the opposite direction; insolent and challenging in the early scenes (in a style known to the viewing millions), he expands once he goes into direct attack – and seems at his happiest sitting smiling at the kitchen table while the other three are at each others' throats. Finally, and saddest of all, is Blenda Blethyn's hopeless wife, who converts all disasters into her personal responsibilty, without any capacity to put things right.

Benefactors does not compensate for this departure from comedy with a strengthened plot. To make the obvious comparison with Stephen Fagin's *The Hard Shoulder*, there is not even any financial disaster impending. The play is as beautifully written as you would expect; but, despite the performances, the characters remain exiles from the world of satire who have not properly put down roots anywhere else.

Irving Wardle

Michael Pennington, after a spell of parts making cruel physical demands, is back at the National in *Venice Preserv'd*: interview by Peter Lewis

Rigorous romantic

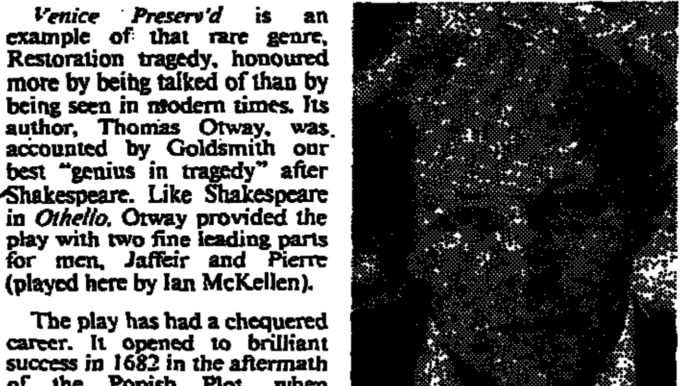
Michael Pennington gets the chance to employ his ruggedly romantic looks in the romantic part of Jaffeir, the reluctant revolutionary of *Venice Preserv'd*, which opens at the National Theatre on Thursday, with previews starting tonight. His last such appearance was as a memorable Hamlet at Stratford in 1980. More recently he has been portraying a haggard Raskolnikov and the broken-down Russian horse, Strider. For both of these he transformed his appearance by ruthless physical methods, fasting to lose three stone as Raskolnikov and taking up rigorous ballet training for Tolstoy's decrepit piebald.

Venice Preserv'd is an example of that rare genre, Restoration tragedy, honoured more by being talked of than by being seen in modern times. Its author, Thomas Otway, was accounted by Goldsmith our best "genius in tragedy" after Shakespeare. Like Shakespeare in *Othello*, Otway provided the play with two fine leading parts for men, Jaffeir and Pierre (played here by Ian McKellen).

The play has had a chequered career. It opened to brilliant success in 1682 in the aftermath of the Popish Plot, when conspiracy theories, hysteria and witch-hunting were in the air. This topical story of a plot against the Venetian senate mirrored the murky atmosphere of shifting loyalties that Titus Oates had let loose. It was a favourite vehicle for Betterton, Garrick and Kemble and its revolutionary sentiments caused sympathetic riots in the theatre in 1795, 1809 and 1848. After that the play was virtually dropped for a hundred years, until Gielgud revived it under Peter Brook's direction in 1953.

Otway wrote the part of Belvidera for the young leading actress Elizabeth Barry, for whom he nursed an unrequited passion. She was already the mistress of the Earl of Rochester, which might have seemed enough for anyone, and "would hardly condescend to grant him a kiss". "There was an element of wish-fulfilment in the part of Jaffeir for Otway", says Michael Pennington. "He wrote very good love scenes – there's a sort of stricken romanticism about them. He followed Mrs Barry around like a spaniel. His letters to her are pitiful to read. There is something in the play that is difficult to resist. In the midst of their political intrigue they are preoccupied with love, honour, loyalty, the concerns of the romantic sensibility."

Pennington's Hamlet was the culmination of many years with the Royal Shakespeare Company, which he originally joined as a spear-carrier straight from Cambridge, where he had played a Macbeth for Trevor Nunn, his contemporary. Against the trend of the time, he gave Hamlet back his nobility of bearing and diction and yet endowed him with dangerous physical energy. "After that I stayed away from the stage for as long as I could stand it. I needed a rest – after seven years banging away on that big stage you wonder if there isn't an easier way of earning a living." The alternative was television drama, in which he played D. H. Lawrence, Chekhov and Jung, but after two years he was getting restive for the stage again.



Michael Pennngton: ruthless transformations

He was "really hungry" to get back to it when Yuri Lyubimov arrived to direct his own adaptation of *Crime and Punishment*. Soon he was even hungrier as he dieted for the role – not at Lyubimov's suggestion but on his own initiative. "It wasn't because I was overweight. I just thought it would be right. Hunger is a big factor in the story. Raskolnikov is skeletal in every way, in his feelings as well as his body. I couldn't sleep much but I felt very healthy, on top of the world. I understood what people mean by the clarity you experience with fasting."

Before rehearsals began he had made a trip to Moscow to see Lyubimov's work at the Taganka Theatre and discovered the fervent following he had there. "They announced an extra performance at noon one Saturday and at two hours' notice the theatre was mobbed like a football stadium. Though I speak little Russian, I knew from watching it what he was after. He's a superlative director. I didn't find him as autocratic as he's supposed to be, and he was pleased with what he got from us. I found it incredible that we only played for six weeks at Hammersmith, that no West End management would offer us a theatre. Even Channel 4 was not interested." Pennington hopes to do *Possessed* with Lyubimov next year. "I would do anything for him. The last I heard, the actors at the Taganka were refusing to work with the director appointed in his place."

Then came *Strider*, Tolstoy's "story of a horse" which symbolizes the Russian peasantry. "It's as much a dancer's role as an actor's. I needed two hours at the *barre* before rehearsals and I need to be in very good physical shape to play it."

He admits to a long-standing fascination with Russia. After an RSC tour wound up in Japan, he travelled home alone by the Trans-Siberian railway and published a vivid evocation of the experience under the title of the train – *Rossya*. He has visited Chekhov's house in Moscow and has now put together his own one-man show, an evening in Chekhov's company, drawn from the letters, stories and biographical material. He will take it on tour this summer and later bring it to the Cottesloe.

What does Pennington think of the National, which he has reached a little late in his career, at the age of 40? "There's a less familial atmosphere here than there was at Stratford a while ago. It's very hard-boiled – if a show doesn't work, off it comes. It's a dog's life, being a classical actor. Nowadays, new directors want new faces. There are more people contending for leading parts than there used to be in the days of the actor-knights. You rarely get a second chance at the big roles. There are a lot of discovered classical actors wandering around with not enough to do. Clearly an element of fashion comes into it. But I'd like to stay around and do a few more roles. Perhaps it's the time."

A SPECIAL REPORT

Photo montage: Michael Bennett

The growth of franchising in Britain is a phenomenon. At a time when people with lump sums in redundancy set off on the road to self-employment, we look at the world of franchising – now estimated to generate £1 billion in annual sales this year

Franchising

By the end of this year sales through franchised businesses in Britain will have almost doubled over a two-year period, with the number of jobs created by franchising growing by two thirds.

Now that the principles of franchising are more commonly understood and are being applied in new areas – the technique is spreading even to professional services like accountancy – some in the industry believe that the rate of growth will continue at least at this rate.

They argue that in Britain franchising could be at the stage it was in the United States in the 1960s when a surge there in the popularity of franchising took it to almost a third of all US retail sales.

There are some special factors in the United States. Franchising there accounts for a big proportion of petrol sales whereas in Britain such sales are excluded from franchising statistics because the petrol selling pattern is much more mixed. Car dealerships are included in the US franchise statistics while in Britain, although dealerships were an early form of franchising in the United Kingdom, they are also excluded from sales estimates.

Franchising sales in Britain consequently account for less than 10 per cent of all retail sales. If the automotive element were added the proportion of sales by franchising could be a fifth or more.

The latest European Franchising Federation estimates place Britain at number three in Europe for franchised businesses sales behind France, with £5.4 billion, and West Germany with £2.18 billion. UK sales are put at £1.295 billion from a total of 16.300 outlets developed by 250 franchisors.

The franchisor is the person or company which licenses the franchisee to use a business format typically with a nationally known name which is supported by advertising and other promotions. Franchising tends to be identified with the fast-food chains among which in Britain Kentucky Fried Chicken and Wimpy are extensive franchise operations. But franchising is now penetrating many other sectors, from plumbing services to dress hire and chocolate and cosmetic sales to tent hire.

France has the most operations, with 450 different franchisors. This reflects a much bigger penetration of retail sectors by franchising, a pattern which now seems likely to be followed in Britain.

There are around 22,000 franchised outlets in France. Germany has more outlets – some 33,400 – but with about the same number of franchisors as in Britain. The Netherlands franchise market is worth almost as much in annual sales as in Britain but with only a third of the number of outlets. Belgium has a well developed franchise sector worth some £770m in annual sales.

All the European statistics exclude car franchises and petrol sales.

The pattern of franchising growth in Britain emerges from estimates by the British Franchise Association (BFA), which as part of its watchdog role imposes on members a code of ethics. Franchisors with a proven track record become full members and newer franchisors prepared to abide by the code can be placed on a BFA register prior to gaining full membership. There are now just over 50 full members and another 25 or so on the register.

Some important and well established franchisors do not belong to the BFA, partly because the BFA's territory has tended to be the latest second generation franchises. First generation franchises include the car dealers and the area franchises of companies like Singer, the sewing machine manufacturers, which was one of the pioneers of franchising.

It was in the last century that Singer franchised sales territories. The origins of franchising can be traced back even further to the period nearly 200 years ago when British brewers developed the tied-house system for selling their beer.

The BFA has not been without occasional rogue members in the past but since it was formed in 1977, vetting procedures have been tightened. A franchisor being a BFA member is one indication for the would-be franchisees that they are dealing with an ethical company.

At the end of 1982 BFA members and approved franchisors accounted for £500m in annual sales through 4,200 outlets employing more than 30,000 people. By this year end BFA estimates that sales will be nearing £1 billion annually through 5,000 outlets employing around 50,000.

Tony Dutfield BFA's director, said "It is quite conceivable that this rate of growth will continue. There was the period when the wave of redundancies sent many off with a lump in their pockets but it looks as if this geared up the rate of franchising much less than was thought at the time. Typical redundancy payments were often not enough in themselves to allow too many to buy into franchising".

It is still possible to secure some franchises with a stake of £5,000, especially with some of the service franchises, but a fast-food franchises can for instance cost as much as £300,000.

The average cost of a franchise is now rather more than £30,000. Successful franchising is usually a marriage between a company with a simple, clear-cut business idea that takes the franchising route for quick growth and a keenly motivated would-be small business principal attracted to a proved business format.

Franchises are now offering a 90 per cent chance of commercial success according to Brian Smith, chairman of the BFA, who is managing director of ServiceMaster which franchises carpet, curtain and upholstery cleaning services. It is Mr Smith who has been arguing that with such low failure rates compared with traditional small businesses the franchising sector should get some tax concessions to offset training costs. There ought to be more specific benefits to franchising built into the many schemes set up by government to aid small businesses, he has also argued.

With reputable franchisors the failure rate in franchised businesses is probably not more than 2.5 per cent, according to Martin Mendelsohn, a lawyer who has specialized in franchising in Britain. This compares with an overall new businesses failure rate in the first five years of a business's life of some 40 per cent.

If all franchised businesses and not just BFA members are taken into account the employment generated by franchising is already probably in excess of 100,000 in terms of direct employment. If companies involved with franchised businesses, as in providing supplies or distribution, are taken into account franchising in Britain may well be generating about 200,000 jobs overall, he estimates.

He added: "There is scope for much more franchising development in Britain. Retailing is relatively unexploited".

Derek Harris
Commercial Editor

Getting the right advice

An offshoot of Britain's growing franchising industry are specialist consultants who largely concentrate on advising companies planning to franchise an idea. Some also offer advice to would-be franchisees, those trying to decide whether to take up a franchise offer.

Among the consultants are Caltain Associates, the Centre for Franchise Marketing and Midlands-based Franchise and Marketing Management.

The best consultants have had experience as franchisors at management level and have the approval of the British Franchise Association and the franchising departments of the banks. A consultant should also carry a satisfactory level of professional indemnity insurance, say leading consultants who point out that some so-called consultants have sprung up who are not much more than franchise salesmen.

Big companies are increasingly looking to franchising as a way to exploit the full potential of some of their subsidiary operations. It can cut big company overheads and inject the sort of motivation which only comes from a franchisee working hard on his own business.

It is one way for a big company to retain entrepreneurially minded employees who might otherwise leave the company – a franchisee is likely to earn more than a manager at an equivalent level in the company.

All that you need to know

Geoffrey Golzen guides would-be entrepreneurs through the pros and cons of setting up

When the growing fast food franchise Spud U Like opened their first outlet in Edinburgh in the mid 1970s, the start-up costs were around £100,000. For a franchisee today, says their managing director Tony Schlesinger, it would be about £40,000. The reason for this huge drop is the experience they have acquired in the last eight years about what it takes to open a fast food place.

They now have precise ideas about what sort of equipment is needed, how the counter areas should be fitted out and what kind of staff and inventory levels are required from the start. They also now have 40 franchises and this gives Spud U Like much greater purchasing leverage than they had a few years ago.

This illustrates the two main characteristics of franchising. First the franchisor passes on to the franchisee the know-how that has been acquired in running at least one pilot operation. Second, the franchisee, though operating largely as an independent unit, gets some of the purchasing muscle of a larger organization.

Taking up a franchise is a cost-effective way of starting your own business, but it would be a mistake to think of it as a cheap one. Spud U Like's £40,000 does not include the cost of acquiring premises and initial stock. Depending on location that might boost the figure by 50 per cent or more – and they are at the cheap end of the spectrum. The start-up costs on a Wimpey franchise now run to at least £300,000 and the average for this sector is well into six figures.

At the cheaper end are the so-called job franchises that can be run from home. All that is needed is the equipment the franchisor supplies you with and, probably, some form of transport. Typical job franchises are Home Tune (tuning car engines) or Servicemaster (domestic and office cleaning). Here the start-up costs are around £10,000.

Included in this sum is the initial fee charged by the franchisor. That is one element in what he gets for passing on his experience. The other and more important source of revenue is in the form of a monthly royalty paid by the franchisee. It is averaged around 10 per cent on turnover. The initial fee also varies widely: between 5 per cent and 25 per cent of projected start-up costs.

The banks say that it should not be more than 15 per cent of these costs. Barclays, Natwest and Lloyds are now active in the franchise field. Franchising has a much better record of success than ordinary small business start-ups.

There are at least 300 franchises now on the market, which range from the untried to the dubious. Even if an intending franchisee does not need bank finance he or she should certainly ask the bank's opinion on the proposition under consideration.

Vital factors

"As Joe's print shop I wouldn't have had much credibility. But the major print franchises have become household names," is how one former printing executive explains his decision to become a franchisee, even though he had the experience to start up on his own.

Credibility is an important factor in a new business. Getting hold of a good site can also be a problem. Money is not the only thing to be taken into account. Property owners like to let to established names because they are a magnet to others of similar status.

Chiefly, however, the attraction of a franchise is that it is a tested recipe for business success. The projections and cash flow forecasts produced by the franchisor are – or should be – based on results achieved by his pilot outlets and by other franchisees. If you follow the format, so the argument runs, you will achieve equally good results.

It will be apparent from this that although franchisors stress that taking up a franchise is exactly like running your own business, this is not quite the case. Its success depends on its being a cloning operation in which everything from the design of the letterheads to the content and price of the product or service is laid down by the franchisor.

There are also many questions to ask the franchisor. He gets a royalty based on turnover – not your profitability. You need to be sure that you will not be dragged willy-nilly into promotional schemes that boost the former at the expense of the latter. And what exactly will he do for his royalty? Will he spend at least some of it on advertising, for instance, and on a continuing programme of research and development to fend off the opposition.

Has he got the management strength to administer the franchise and come to your help over, say, problems with suppliers? Does the product or service itself have distinctive features that give it a slot in the marketplace – and one that can be protected? Does it have continuing appeal or is based on a fad?

In the end the best people to talk to are other franchises. See as many of them as you can and ask them whether their results are living up to the franchisor's promises. The appearance of the actual outlets can be revealing too.

The franchisor's view

If you have a sound and demonstrably profitable business concept, why franchise it rather than reap the full benefits yourself? McDonald, the most successful franchise in the US, in running all its 134 UK fast food restaurants as company-owned outlets. The reason is that they can afford to do so.

But for most companies financing rapid growth, especially if it involves acquiring central sites, presents hugh cash flow problems. That is why even a company as large as Booker McConnell have chosen to franchise the Holland & Barrett health food chain – an example being closely watched by a number of other retailers, mindful of the fact that franchising now accounts for over 30 per cent of the retail market in the US.

Traditionally, however, it has been thought of as an ideal way for a small to medium-sized business to grow quickly.

It retains some of the advantages of establishing you own network, particularly economies of scale on such matters as national advertising and centralised administration. At the same time it requires a low level of investment, mainly in training and back-up facilities. Above all it removes the headache and cost of finding, motivating and supervising staff.

That is the theory. In practice it has been found that choosing franchisees is every bit as difficult as choosing managers. He (or she – there are quite a number of women franchisees) needs to be an entrepreneur, but not one so independently minded as to resist the uniformity of method and presentation which franchising imposes. "The ideal franchisee is a good number two," says one experienced franchisor. Here again the banks play a useful part in assessing for general suitability the prospective franchisees who come to them for loans.

It is equally important that the franchisor himself stays in touch with the marketplace. Nearly all of them operate one or two company-owned outlets as a test bed for new ideas and products. Piloting, is an essential preliminary to launching a franchise at all and a condition of BFA membership. By no ns all good business ideas are suitable for franchising and some franchises that have been successful in one country have not travelled well to another. There is a cultural dimension to consumer behaviour – for instance in the Americans' passion for continuing "sales", however bogus.

Apart from that it has been found that the cloning process only lends itself to simple, rather mechanical business concepts – certainly not on ones that depend on flair. For this reason it is pizzas that give an international flavour to the fast food market, rather than haute cuisine.

The legal aspect

One major franchisor says that he regards his relationship with franchisees as being like a partnership. In the legal sense there are, of course, vast differences between the two arrangements but they do have some vital characteristics in common.

Franchising is a meeting of mutual interests: if the franchisee makes a success of the business, the franchisor's revenue will increase proportionately. It will also be proof that the idea works and it will therefore help him to recruit further franchisees. The converse of that is that the growing strength of the franchise will feed back to the franchisee – for instance in enabling the franchisor to negotiate better terms for suppliers.

The third party in all this is the customer. What he is being offered must be competitive in price and quality. Unless these conditions are met, the franchise is unlikely to succeed.

The document in which these commercial forces are balanced out is the franchise agreement. It covers four main issues.

Site and territory

The franchisee will be given a "privileged" territory in which the franchisor agrees not to allocate other franchises. This however cannot protect him from competiton from similar businesses. The franchisor should have conducted a proper market survey covering all aspects of viability in that particular site.

Fees and royalty

Both of these should be in line with prevailing rates for similar franchises. If they are very much lower, look out for hidden extras like excessive markups on supplies or equipment. It might also mean that the franchise is not yet properly established.

Obligations

The franchisor must provide proper training in the running of the business and continuing back-up to deal with problems.

The franchisee may be obliged to buy from nominated sources. If so, it should be at competitive rates and with guaranteed delivery. He or she will certainly be obliged to conduct the business on lines laid down by the franchisor.

Termination

Contracts normally run from 7 to 10 years. If they are much less than that, there may be difficulty in recouping the initial investment. The terms of renewal should be stated. Normally there is an option to renew on the existing basis and without a further fee.

Equally important are the conditions under which the franchisee can sell the business. The franchisor generally asks for the right to approve the purchaser, bearing in mind that the success of the franchise as a whole depends on the individual franchisee. Often he asks for first refusal to buy back the franchise. That should be on an independent assessment of its market value.

Like all legal documents, however, franchise contracts are long, complex and apt to give the benefit of the doubt to whoever drafted it. It should not be signed without getting proper legal advice. If what it says is substantially different from previous verbal assurances, treat it with caution.



Fast-movers: Max McHardy is vice-president and marketing director of Budget Rent-A-Car, which now has 100 hire outlets in Britain; Virginia Stourton runs a chain specializing in interior decoration

On a pathway to growth

From professions to pets, there may be a new way of operating a business, explains Derek Harris

The sector most recently penetrated by franchising has been professional services. Accountancy, veterinary services and insurance broking are three areas so far involved.

The Accounting Information Development Service (Aids), is Britain's first franchised accountancy service. Mike Sallinger, chairman and manging director of the London-based Aids organization, which now has 18 franchisees, set out on his path to growth through a chance conversation with Edward Young, a former chairman of the British Franchise Association.

Mr Young is chairman and managing director of one of the most successful franchising groups in Britain. Young's Franchising Group, which since it introduced from France the Pronuptia bridal wear franchise operation, has from 1976 grown from ten shops with some £400,000 annual turnover to more than 100 outlets with an expected turnover this year of some £16m.

What Aids offers is a comparatively low cost computerised accounting service to small businesses, with the franchise or as the local man on the spot to liaise with companies and interpret the results, effectively offering a company doctor service that allows a small business to keep track of financial progress. Aids has a mainframe computer availability for preparing clients' accounts monthly.

The Sallinger aim is to recruit 200 franchisees in five years. He expects to have 40 by the end of this year with another 40 recruited next year.

An Aids franchise costs £5,000 outside London, and twice that in central London. Franchisees pay Aids 10 per cent in royalties and 40 per cent of the selling price of computer-pocessed work.

An unusual franchise operation, given the almost total restraints on advertising within the profession, is that of Sussex-based Anicare Group Services. It franchises management services to the veterinary profession, providing a total back-up in managerial, advisory and computer services. There are now seven veterinary practices involved and it is expected that one or two will be added annually.

In insurance broking Manchester-based Swinton Insurance has launched a franchising operation. Swinton's operates countrywide but concentrates on the North of England and to selected candidates is prepared to franchise its name, house style and effectively its reputation. The first franchisees appointed were all insurance trained, either with insurance companies or other insurance brokers.

An initial investment is necessary of £18,000, of which £7,000 must be in cash together with £4,000 of working capital. Swinton subsequently takes a percentage of turnover and commissions.

Other sectors recently penetrated by franchising are cosmetics and chocolates. In the past four years Yves Rocher, with a speciality in French perfume, has grown to a franchise chain of more than 25 outlets. By the end of this year the number of outlets is expected to rise to around 50.

The chocolate sales franchises are those of J W Thornton, formerly of Sheffield where it still had a factory but now based at Belper in Derbyshire where there are further production facilities. Where towns are sufficiently large Thornton's have their own shop outlets and there are 150 of these, mostly north of a line between the River Severn and the Wash, although there are some outlets recently opened in the south of England, including one in London's Covent Garden.

The variety of franchises is constantly growing. Identicar based in the West Midlands is a franchise for etching vehicle registration numbers on windscreens as a security measure. IQ Tools in Bristol systemises sales of tools to the garage trade while Snap-On-Tools at Kettering distributes automative hand tools.

Mrs Virginia Stourton runs Colour Counsellors, a chain of more than 50 outlets which specialise in interior decoration advice, with colour catalogued samples of wallpapers, carpets and fabrics. Additions to the chain are now running at around a dozen a year.

A service concept imported from the United States at the beginning of last year, offering a cleaning system for increasingly fitted in Britain by ClenTech, part of the Conder group. There are 24 franchises so far licensed.

The Wimpy fast-food chain, now part of United Biscuits, expects to add another 20 more outlets this year. It now has 420 including 55 of the bigger establishments set up as a re-marketing operation to meet the growing challenge of the American chains like McDonalds (not yet franchising in Britain) and Burger King (which is considering franchising here). Only about 20 outlets, mostly bigger ones, are operated by Wimpy itself, the rest being franchised.

Budget Rent-A-Car now has 100 car hire outlets in Britain, all of them franchised and up from around 70 at the depth of the recession.

FT – ACTUARIES INDICES	
INDUSTRIAL GROUP	512.79 (507.47)
500 SHARE INDEX	560.49 (556.59)
*EARNINGS YIELD	9.75% (9.81%)
DIVIDEND YIELD	4.28% (4.31%)
P.E. RATIO (NET)	12.62 (12.53)
ALL SHARE INDEX	519.08 (516.28)
DIVIDEND YIELD	4.43% (4.45%)

* estimated.

STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

Shares bounce back

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, March 26. Dealings End today. § Contango Day, April 9. Settlement Day, April 16
§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.

FT STOCK INDICES	
GOVERNMENT SECURITIES	82.81 (82.60)
FIXED INTEREST	86.62 (86.52)
INDUSTRIAL ORDINARY	876.0 (857.8)
GOLD MINES	656.4 (645.9)
ORDINARY DIVIDEND YIELD	4.41% (4.45%)
EARNINGS YIELD	9.93% (10.02)
P.E. RATIO (NET)	11111111111 12.10% (12.00)
P.E. RATIO (NIL)	11.47 (11.37)

BRITISH FUNDS

1983/84 High	Low	Stock	Price	Ch'ge	Int. only Yield	Gross Red. Yield
[illegible]						

SHORTS

[illegible]

MEDIUMS

[illegible]

LONGS

[illegible]

COMMONWEALTH AND FOREIGN

[illegible]

LOCAL AUTHORITIES

[illegible]

1983/84 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
[illegible]							

DOLLAR STOCKS

[illegible]

BANKS AND DISCOUNTS

[illegible]

BREWERIES AND DISTILLERIES

[illegible]

COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL

A—B

[illegible]

C—E

[illegible]

F—H

[illegible]

I—N

[illegible]

O—S

[illegible]

T—Z

[illegible]

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

[illegible]

INSURANCE

[illegible]

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

1983/84 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
164	116	TR Technology	161	−1	4.7	2.9	..
116	78½	TR Trustees	112	.	4.7b	4.2	..
265	170	Throg Sec 'Cap'	260	.	8.6b	3.3	..
197	137	Throgmtn Trust	194	.	9.3	4.8	..
149	111	Trans Oceanic	138	.	4.1	2.9	..
[illegible]	[illegible]	Tribune Inv	90	[illegible]	2.7	3.0	[illegible]

[illegible]

SHIPPING

[illegible]

MINES

[illegible]

OIL

[illegible]

PROPERTY

[illegible]

PLANTATIONS

[illegible]

MISCELLANEOUS

[illegible]

UNLISTED SECURITIES

1983/84 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
[illegible]							
298	140	Microlease	270	−10	2.9b	1.1	..
270	133	Miles 33	248	−10	2.9	1.2	28.4
46	25	New Court Nat	41	..	1.7	4.2	16.1
31½	22½	Owners Abroad	28½	+¼	0.7	2.5	12.8
52	8½	Parkfield Fndry	44	.	..	..	..
203	150	Pericom	198	..	2.4	1.2	31.4
155	123	Securiguard	148	−2	2.5	1.7	27.8
88	48	S.W.Resources	61	.	2.6	4.3	..

• Ex dividend. a Ex all. b Forecast dividend. c Corrected price. e Interim payment passed. f Price at suspension. g Dividend and yield exclude a special payment. h Bid for company. k Pre-merger figures. n Forecast earnings. p Ex capital distribution. r Ex rights. s Ex scrip or share split. t Tax free. y Price adjusted for late dealings. .. No significant data.

RECENT ISSUES

	Closing Price
Brinz Inv £1 Ord (a)	143
Burmatex 10p Ord (155)	180
CPS Computer 20p Ord (67a)	160
Chart J Roths Pac Inv 25p Ord	98
Cambrium Venture	20½
Denman's Electrical 25p Ord (162a)	170
Dewey Warren Hldgs 10p Ord (a)	115
Formdesign 20p Ord (114a)	14½
Havelock Europa 10p Ord (75a)	90−1
Horne Robert Group 20p Ord	99−1
Do "A" NV (At 156 per unit a)	97-2
Meadow Farm 10p Ord (130a)	144+4
Norbain Electronics 5p Ord (116a)	220-3
Nth Sea & Gen Oil £1 Ord (125a)	106
Our Price 20p Ord (215)	235
Petranol 10p Ord (215)	256-20
Platon Int 25p Ord (120a)	150
Powerline Int 5p Ord (160a)	248
Scantronic Hldgs 2½p Ord (78a)	123
Systems Reliability 10p Ord (210)	470
Tod W & J 5p Ord (143a)	170

Issue price in parentheses a Unlisted Securities, * by tender.

MONEY MARKETS

[illegible]

FOREIGN EXCHANGES

[illegible]

DOLLAR SPOT RATES

[illegible]

OTHER MARKETS

[illegible]

GOLD

[illegible]

EURO-$ DEPOSITS

[illegible]

COMMODITIES

[illegible]

THE TIMES

FINANCE AND INDUSTRY

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

Good times, better times for Thomson

The International Thomson Organisation yesterday unveiled a rich store of figures, gave itself a pat on the back, and exuded a "new confedence that could well be expressed in *major deal within 18 months.* On a sale gain of just under 13 per cent, trading profits have risen 35 per cent to £155m and earnings 47 per cent to £76m. True, something like £70m has been cut from costs by the scrapping of UK supplementary petroleum duty and earn*ings were boosted by £6m of exchange* rate gains. But the company's advance looks to have fuelled by a successful strategy, not fortunate chance. That's the board's view but it dose stand up to analysis, particularly since the notes accompanying the fugures spell out just how strongly *placed in virtually all* divisions the *ITO* now is. UK travel companies achieved record trading profits, while US publishing and information interests puched up trading profits by some 57 per cent. Thomson Regional Newspapers showed "significant" gains in profits.

The great ITO gusher, Thomson's North Sea oil interests, seems to have become even more lucrative. Planning *assumptions about North Sea oil may* have been too cautious." Recoverable reserves have been bumped up by some 128 million barrels, worth perhaps, a present value of $4 per barrel.

The cumulative effect is to transform oil under the sea into money in the bank. Last year, with cash and bank term deposits swollen by a £45m placing, ITO's bank balance rose from £61m to £141m. *Net debt is trimmed from £72m to £31m,* or just 9 per cent of equity. Most of the remaining debt is funded.

With Thomson's Reuters stake in the balance sheet for virtually nothing, it is worth 5 per cent of whatever Stock Market valuation is placed on Reuters, it would be surprising if Thomson were not clearing the decks for rapid fire on the acquisition front. A one for one share split lightens the shares, for action.

ITO has made no secret of its ambitions to expand in the United States. So far it has spent some $360m, buying US information and publishing interests; last year these acquisitions generated nearly $60m in trading profits. A measure of the group's interest in the US, and its underlying corporate strength, is the decision to write off £15m of accelerated expenditure, or double the 1982 figure.

With cash flow now running at around £150m and debt virtually reduced to zero, *Thomson is well on the way to transforming* finite gains from North Sea oil into long term and high earning interests in the USA. (but not, one imagines into national newspapers in Britain!). The shares put on 30p yesterday to 850p.

Not with a bang but a whimper

The Stock Exchange's first formal step towards full-blown, dual capacity is due to take place on Monday, when member firms will be permitted to operate internaional dealerships. But, with only three days to go, it appears that the new era will dawn in a cloud of hesitancy and not a little disarray.

For the first time on Monday brokers *may take a position and deal in* international shares, rather as stockjobbers do now in the UK. They will also be able to charge a negotiated commission and not be restricted by the UK's current rates of fixed commissions on equities. But only a handful are ready on the starting block.

With creditable candour, the jobbers Akroyd and Smithers said last night that it *could not get its act together in time* and Akroyd and Smithers' International Dealership would not start until April 30.

Akroyd's more ambitious planned link with stockbroker Rowe and Pitman for an International Dealership capitalized at £17m will not be ready until October 1. Failure to get the necessary office space and the right phones connected in time are the culprits, it explains.

Hoare Govett, one of the biggest broking firms, has made no formal announcement, but have its ID in place and will not use it as a market-making company. The group may take a position in shares offered to it, but will not aggressively take the jobber's market-*making role. This might evolve over the* next six to nine months. Cazenove, another powerful broking force, has already said it will not be aggressively touting for business, but instead will run a more sedate matching service.

And Quilter Goodison, the broker, whose senior partner is Stock Exchange chairman, Sir Nicholas Goodison will also miss the "off". It will not be ready to launch its ID and will not be in a position to talk about a possible partner for the international side for a further six weeks.

Among the few leaders will be William De Broe Hill. This broker will be operating an international dealership, dealing in South African Gold shares and claiming to be the first to set up an ID.

Even so, the firm will not initially be taking positions, but offering a matching service if stock comes on offer. Leading the team of the firm, which grew from French roots in 1869, will be Mr Yves Gachoud who has been with them for 30 years. As part of the team will be Mr Richard Wilson, known on the market floor for his skill dealing in mining stocks.

It is expected that Grieveson, Grant will be ready on the first day under the direction of Mr Derek Millard, but the firm is not expected to compete with *jobbers.*

Recently Kitcat & Aitken, the brokers, where Mr Jacob Rothschild's Charterhouse J Rothschild holds a 29.9 per cent stake, announced earlier this week that it intends to form a similar subsidiary. Monday's relaxation of rules governing the dealing in overseas securities represents the first of a number of changes brought in by the Stock Exchange as part *of reforms promised to the Government* last summer in return for exemption from the provisions of the Restrictive Practices Act.

If this is to be typical of the London market's response to change, it does not bode well. But it could be, of course, that the brokers set *little store* by this kind of compromise and will join in the game more earnestly once the firms are allowed to take on a proper dual-capacity role across the full range of their activities and not be forced to take a piecemeal approach both to their internal structures and international networks.

The new class of entrepreneur

No one today is in the least surprised that a management based consortium is a prime contender for the privatization of *British Rail's Sealink enterprise. That* is itself shows how far management buyouts have come since the denationalization of National Freight snatched the headlines.

In a sense, the National Freight case was seen at the time as a good piece of propaganda for the Government, showing that privatization of state enterprises could involve not merely senior managers but also turn employees down the line into *concerned investors in their own business.* Since then, the striking business success of that particular case has helped to make the whole idea of management buyouts both realistic and respectable, in such stark contrast to the failure of the workers cooperative movement to get off the ground. And the participation of National Freight in the Sealink management consortium can only strengthen its *position.*

But the privatization element is only the tip of the iceberg. Management buyouts have saved many a workforce from the dole queue and many a multinational from shame of closure in the depression. But the phenomenon is not merely a creature of the current restructuring of British industry, according to the new edition of the *Economist Intelligence Unit's bible on the* subject. They have become established as "part of a much wider phase in the evolution of the structure of capitalist enterprises, upon which the UK (and other Western economies) appear to be embarking", says the EIU.

The buyouts have genuinely turned a lot of middle managers into a new class of entrepreneur, giving them a previously undreamed-of way accumulating capital and improving the morale of a group whose status was tending to sag, as operators of peripheral outfits in huge corporations. More and more banks and special investment companies and middlemen have come into the field and have *changed the whole attitude to management* buyouts.

Unlike those who start new businesses, for instance, the manager turned boss is now not usually required to put up his house and family car as collateral. Indeed banks are now beginning to see this as a *useless encumbrance which merely* adds to anxiety rather than the lender's financial security. The key to success is the manager's incentive to show he can do it better than head office

Perhaps the most remarkable lesson of this new wave of British capitalism, though, is that it has been acheived in the face of legal and tax hurdles rather than on a cushion of state subsidies.

Fears of tighter Fed stance as banks raise prime rate

By Frances Williams, Economics Correspondent

Leading American banks yesterday raised their prime *lending rates by half a percent*age point to 12 per cent amid fears that the Federal Reserve Board has moved decisively to tighten credit policy.

But in London, Mr Beryl Sprinkel, US Treasury Undersecretary, said he saw no evidence that the Fed Was taking a more restrictive line and predicted that the dollar would continue to decline modestly over the year.

The markets took the prime rate news in their stride. It had *been expected for several* days after a sharp increase in the key Fed funds rate – the rate at which banks lend to each other *in the short-term money market* – to about 10¾ per cent.

Since the last prime rate increase less than three weeks ago, money market rates have *risen by about half a point,* putting pressure on the banks to make a move.

First National Bank of Chicago was the first to announce the prime rate increase, closely followed by the other big banks.

The dollar gained in late trading to finish in London almost unchanged against the Deutschemark at DM2.6168. The pound, pulled along in the slipstream, also strengthened against European currencies *and the yen, with a 10 point rise* against the dollar to $1.4340.

There is great confusion about Fed policy, with most analysts now looking to the Fed's official discount rate for a clear signal of intent. A rise in the discount rate – still 8.5 per cent and clearly out of line with *market rates – would make* Fed tightening explicit. But in the midst of the presidential election campaign, and with the international debt crisis still rumbling in the background, the Fed is under pressure not to make an overt move which would hurt confidence worldwide.

Most analysts, however, believe American *interest rates* will be higher by the end of the year, with the risk that a continuing strong dollar will *force other countries to keep* their rates up.

The Fed fears that the runaway American recovery may trigger a fresh surge in inflation. But Mr Sprinkel said yesterday that he expected growth to "taper" gently over the coming months.

Mr Sprinkel's optimism on the world economic outlook this year, which he said would be a *helpful background for the* summit of heads of government in London in June, was reinforced by reports yesterday that the German government is confident of strong economic growth this year while Japan is expected to revise its 4 per cent growth forecasts upwards.

Mr Sprinkel repeated his view that the huge American *budget deficit was the cause of* high US interest rates. But in Frankfurt, Herr Karl Otto Poehl, president of the German Central Bank, said uncontrolled US deficits could cause a dollar collapse

BP calls for tax incentives

By David Young, Energy Correspondent

*Sir Peter Walters, the chair*man of BP, has called on world governments to provide tax incentives to make the risky *business of oil exploration* more attractive.

Sir Peter confirms poor results from BP's drilling programme in China and disappointing results from the expensive Mukluk project in Alaska, in the company's annual report

"I mention these disappointments rather than our many successes because they *highlight* a factor often overlooked – namely, risk,"

The annual report confirms a 55 per cent increase in profits to £970m. It also shows that BP has cut staff worldwide by just over 16,000, to 131,600.

Average earnings by employees have risen from just over £10,000 to nearer £15,000 a year. *However,* with the figure being affected by the weakness of sterling against the dollar, the true rate of wage increase is between 6 and 7 per cent in the United Kingdom and 7 and 8 per cent overseas. Sir Peter's salary has increased from £172,770 in 1982 to £183,134 in 1983.

The report and accounts also *show that BP employees earning* more than £30,000 a year owe £8.9m in company loans at a minimum rate of 3 per cent.

North Sea exploration will be stepped up this year with more money being spent on southeast Forties, Swops, and the ULA field.

Some further repayments of borrowings may take place this year. BP *had unused borrowing* facilities of £4,100m at the year-end. Of this, £1,600m was available to Sohio. Capital spending plans for *this* year amount to £5,500m.

Big demand for Delfont issue

By Philip Robinson

Potential investors eager for a stake in Lord Delfont's First Leisure Corporation have oversubscribed the 6 million share issue.

The company confirmed *yesterday through its merchant* bankers that the issuehas been oversubscribed but the basis of the allotment will only be revealed today.

The company is raising £10m from the issue of the new shares at 180p each. Strong demand was expected for the shares and a premium of possibly 20p or 30p is likely when the shares start to trade.

The cash from the offer for sale will leave the company with almost no gearing. Deal*ings are expected to start* next Thursday. Asset backing is 156p and the market capitalization at the offer price is 44.1m.

The *market* believes Lord Delfont is coming to the market as a run up to making a significant acquisition, possibly using shares to pay.

GOLD

London fixed (per ounce):
am $381.60 pm $381.20
close $380.20-380.75 (£265.25-£265.75)
New York (latest): $378.25
Krugerrand* (per coin):
$391.50-393.00 (£273.25-274.25)
Sovereigns* (new):
$89.50-90.50-(£62.50-63.25)
*Excludes VAT

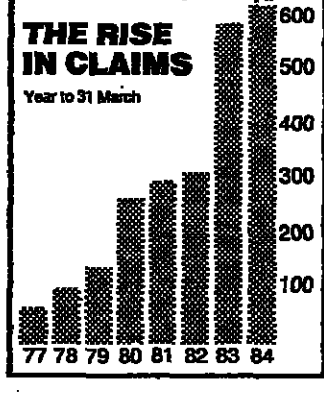
Claims force 5% rise in ECGD premiums

By Peter Wilson-Smith

Thousands of British companies will have to pay more for export insurance as a result of a 5 per cent rise in premium ratees announced yesterday by the Export Credits Guarantee Department.

ECGD, which covers exporters against not being paid, is raising rates because rapidly *rising claims* have exhausted cash reserves.

For the first time in 30 years the department is having to borrow from the Government's consolidated fund, a move unpopular with the Treasury because it pushes up the Public Sector Borrowing Requirement.



ECGD's overdraft with the fund was £2.3m at the end of February, *estimated at £40m at* the end of March and expected to continue to rise.

The 5 per cent across-the-board increase is supplemented by new surcharges on business in riskier territories, surcharges for exporters with bad claims records and reductions in discounts on extended terms business. These will push the *overall* rise in the department's income to 8.5 per cent or £25m.

The bulk of ECGD's business is on run-off-the-mill exports sold on less than six month's credit. More than 10,000 policyholders will be affected on *his type of business.*

Mr Jack Gill, ECGD secretary, said: "These increases in premium income are the lowest possible to meet ECGD's need to be self-supporting over the longer term."

Officials also pointed out that export agencies in other countries were facing similar problems and were putting up rates, in many cases by much more.

In the last two years alone claims have more than doubled *from £304m in the year to end-*March 1982 to £618m in the 11 months to the end of February. Nor is there any sign of improvement. The numerous debt reschedulings in Latin America have had a big impact

Nigeria is one of the big problems still facing the department. It has insured exports worth between £600m to £800m on which it has been having to pay out claims, although it should be able to recoup the money once a refinancing agreement is signed.

Hill Samuel to expand in Australia

Hill Samuel's merchant banking subsidiary in Australia has received conditional approval from the Australian Government to operate as a commercial bank under a deal which would reduce the parent company's voting interest to 10 per cent.

Many foreign banks have long been keen to move into the Australian banking market but earlier hopes that some foreign banks would be allowed in have *not been realized. Because of* this Hill Samuel is working on proposals which would involve reducing its own interest in the merchant bank so it can move into commercial banking.

Mr Christopher Castleman, chief executive of Hill Samuel, said yesterday the plans were still at an early stage and Hill Samuel would be looking for new Australian investors to come into the venture.

It would involve setting up a new bank called, Macquarie Bank *which would acquire* nearly all the interests of Hill Samuel Australia.

Although Hill Samuel would be restricted to a small voting interests in the venture, it is believed that it may retain a larger interest in the group's profits of between 25 to 30 per cent.

The Australian banking *market is undergoing change* at the moment because of deregulation and the expected licensing of more banks which are likely to increase competition.

Recovery by shares

After four days in the doldrums, shares yesterday recovered a little of the enthusiasm so evident at the time of the Budget. The FT 30 shares index recorded a 9.2 points gain to 867. But prices did not hold their best level, ruling in mid-afternoon when the index showed an 11.4 points gain.

Trading was fairly active, with new-time buying ahead of the coming three-week account creating much of the activity. But the completion of end-year profit taking and loss selling also helped stimulate sentiment.

On the foreign exchange market, sterling's international basket value was unchanged at 80. The pound recorded modest progress against the US dollar at $1.4332.

STOCK EXCHANGES

FT-SE 100 Index: 1102.2 up 8.6
(days high: 1104.4 Low: 10.97.8)
FT Index: 867.0 up 9.2
FT Gilts: 82.81 up 0.28
FT All Share: 519.08 up 2.8
Bargains: 31,140
Datastream USM Leaders
Index: 112.25 up 0.05
New York: Dow Jones Industrial
Average: (latest) 1150.65 up 2.09
Tokyo: Nikkei Dow Jones Index
10,922.93 down 9.10
Hongkong: Hang Seng Index
1083.87 up 50.48
Amsterdam: 172.2 down 0.5
Sydney: AO Index 775.5 down 4.6
Frankfurt: Commerzbank Index
1016.0 down 0.2
Brussels: General Index 150.0 up 1.64
Paris: CAC Index 167.6 up 1.4

CURRENCIES

LONDON CLOSE

Sterling
$1.4340 up 10pts
Index 80.00 up 0.1
DM 3.7625 up 0.0125
FrF 11.55 up 0.0250
Yen 324.00 up 1.00
Dollar
Index 126.8 down 0.2
DM 2.6168 *down* 0.0002

NEW YORK LATEST
Sterling $1.4280
Dollar DM 2.6320

INTERNATIONAL
ECU £0.595423
SDR £0.741492

INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates:
Bank base rates 8½
Finance houses base rate 9½
Discount market loans week fixed 8½
3 month interbank 8$^{15}/_{16}$ - 8⅞

Euro-currency rates:
3 month dollar 10⅞ - 11
3 month DM 15$^{13}/_{16}$ - 15$^{11}/_{16}$
3 month Fr F13¾ - 13⅝

US rates
Bank prime rate 11.50 - 12.00
Fed funds 10$^{11}/_{16}$
Treasury long bond 100$^{3}/_{32}$ - 102$^{7}/_{32}$

ECGD Fixed Rate Sterling Export Finance Scheme IV Average reference rate for interest period March 7, 1984 to April 3, 1984 inclusive: 8.976 per cent.

ABP profits up to £14.5m

● **Associated British Ports,** sold to the private sector early last year, has reported pretax profits of £14.5m £5.5m up from (£8.9m after allowing for *capital reconstruction)* the year before. Turnover increased by only £2m to £154.4m for the year to December 1983. The final dividend of 5.5p makes 8.5p **Tempus page 21**

● **Glynwed International** made *pretax profits of £21.8m com*pared with the previous year. Sales increased from £444.3m to £487m. The board is recommending payment of a final dividend of 5.4p a share. **Tempus page 21**

W Morrison Supermarkets *has* increased its pretax profits for the year to January 28 to £9.991, up from £8.858m **Tempus page 21**

NEWS IN BRIEF

Tokyo offer on training

The European Commission is looking for 35 young executives to join a sponsored 18-month training programme designed to improve their companies' export trading *with Japan.*

The package, worth about £25,000, includes a 12-month intensive language course in Japan. Up to eight places should be available to British companies.

● Company-owned stocks of crude oil have dwindled to their lowest absolute level since the *International* Energy Agency started keeping track of them in 1975, according to the IEA's latest monthly oil market report.

Vauxhall sales slow as BL gears up

By Derek Harris, Commercial Editor

Vauxhall's storming progress in the British car market, particularly with sales of its Cavalier, was checked in March as BL's market share surged and that of Ford improved.

The change in fortunes appears largely to reflect the pattern of special promotions adopted by manufacturers including increases in dealer incentives.

An intense period of promotion by Vauxhall eased at the beginning of March and by the end of the month, General Motors' market share, including the sales of its Opel range from West Germany, dropped from the 23 per cent of *February* to 15.64 per cent, according to the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders.

But with BL still heavily promoting its range, its market share rose from 16 per cent in February to nearly 21 per cent in March. Its Austin/MG Metro was *the top selling car last* month and the Maestro was at number six compared with eighth position in February.

The BL challenge will grow later this month when it launches its LM11 model – expected to be called the Montego – which will compete with the Cavalier and Ford's Sierra.

Wayne Lintott looks at the push-button banking trend 'cradle-to-grave' credit

Rival visions of a financial revolution in the high street

Differing views: From left, Mr Mark Weinberg, Mr Clive Hollick and Mr Alex Fletcher.

Mention the prospect of a high street financial supermarket to a clearing bank executive and a shudder is likely to be followed by a terse "no comment" or "we are not prepared to discuss it at the present time".

The Government's decision to open up the City's shuttered corridors to the chill winds of competition, particularly at the Stock Exchange, is initiating one of the most fundamental changes in Britain's financial structure.

A great deal of attention has centred on the professional, wholesale end of the markets. But much private debate is taking place on how these changes will affect the retail side servicing the public. At the centre of this debate are the banks, insurance brokers and building societies.

Mr Alex Fletcher, the Government's overseer of competition, has said that the Government envisages retail financial supermarkets offering a full range of financial services and products.

But just what are these high street money centres likely to offer? And how will they differ from the existing banks and insurance brokers?

Few professionals can do more than hazard guesses. Some of the more dynamic companies in the City have an idea of how to exploit the existing systems better but are cautious about moving into new areas where unwritten restrictive trading practices exist.

This would mean risking the delicate relationships with other competitive organizations which are so dependent on keeping each other happy. Who will risk the wrath of the others first?

Many institutions are looking three-to-five years ahead and some as many as 10 years. Much of that crystal ball gazing is based on American developments but the United States market is much bigger both in terms of geography and population. The British are more prone to loyalty, both to insurance companies and banks.

In both those cases, however, institutions may enjoy customer loyalty on their basic business but not on peripheral services offered. That is particularly true in the case of the clearing banks.

All the companies wanting to enter the traditional areas of doorstep insurance selling and the local high street bank are working on a limited number of views of how the retail financial services business will develop.

It is suggested that over the next 10 years the heavily-staffed, high street clearing bank branches will become redundant. New technology offers instant cash and statements through machines and even transactions through the home television. By pressing buttons people might be able to transact all their banking affairs, from paying bills to borrowing money. That however, does not take into account the unreliability of machinery and the increasing number of expert staff needed to operate it.

Closely aligned to this view are the future relationships of the institutions with the stockbrokers and the development of new financial service conglomerates to compete for what the Americans aptly term cradle-to-grave business.

'Personal relations which are based on trust'

The cradle-to-grave idea envisages a financial services combine capturing professional clients from the time they begin a career to the day they finish it. Within that is "The Hook" strategy. A penniless student begins a promising career. "Here," offers the salesman, "is the money to get married, buy a house and a car." The house appreciates in value, providing the equity profit to invest in the markets.

This leads into a service incorporating loans, savings, investments, mortgages, insurance, pension fund management, daily banking or cash account needs, estate agency, travel, health and hire purchase. It is the very antithesis of the traditional ethic of saving. Only in death does the life insurance policy pay it all off.

Much of that business can be handled without a high street money centre. Companies like Hambro Life (3,000 salesmen) and the Prudential (12,000 salesmen and 450 high street offices) are already studying the services their door-step salesmen can offer through their existing structures.

Beyond the up-market professional classes is the huge potential market of ordinary, working people who still do not have a bank account and only take credit at the point of product sale.

Mr Clive Hollick, managing director at Mills & Allen International, a company with money broking, insurance and advertising interests, is in the process of building up a network of 350 high street outlets. He is half-way there.

Mr Hollick is looking to the C1 and C2 market, specifically those people daunted by the prospect of doing business with a conventional institution. He is looking for "the kind of person that will pop into a friendly shop twice a year to insure their car as cheaply as possible".

Mills & Allen looks to the areas outside the main connurbations to provide a good discount service to people dependent on a car for transport. From that basis he believes his company can broaden its service range into other insurance and financial products.

It already accounts for more than 10 per cent of the revenue of two small insurance companies but Mr Hollick does not see his group moving into direct insurance writing despite the underwriting activities in which it is already involved.

This could give Mr Hollick more influence with the leading insurance companies and the potential to offer cut price motor policies. This is a, notoriously competitive and unprofitable area for insurance,

'TV screens will not bring rush for equities'

but, for the middleman, highly profitable in commissions.

The total market is worth about £2,000m a year, of which £1,200m is transacted through 1,700 local brokers who consider that they can earn 10 per cent on any premium. Their business is being attacked first. High street shops with a base of business would then be able to build reciprocal deals with the professional wholesale end of the money markets, giving business with one hand and demanding an equivalent value of soft commission business in return.

Another view of the future involves high-street outlets manned by a Woolwich-type woman surrounded by a battery of computer terminals and video units. Here the building societies are particularly well placed, and they are at present seeking to have the laws governing their activities liberalized by the Government.

They want customers to be able to wander in and arrange all insurance needs, mortgages, savings and bill paying, from electricity to credit payments, pension contributions, cash and equity dealings.

Such a "transaction" centre might also expand into estate agencies, travel, broking and banking, just as Lloyds Bank has moved the opposite way into house selling.

While the clearers claim that they are already high street money-centres, the reality is different.

Few bank clients use the full range of banking services, beyond current and deposit accounts plus loans. There is little evidence to support the banks' claim that they have successfully integrated their product range and have achieved full customer awareness. Local branch managers vary in their attitude and expertise in relation to consumers and small businesses.

Many of the banks' competitors claim it will take them a minimum of five years to exploit the potential they already have.

This is the view of Mr Mark Weinberg, the head of Hambro Life, who has made it a leading company in the industry over the past decade.

He believes that the banks do not integrate their marketing services professionally. Installing television screens with share prices on them in local branches will not automatically entice the public to begin a rush to buy equities, he says.

So, like the Prudential, Hambro Life remains firmly attached to doorstep selling. The important difference for Mr Weinberg is that high street outlets, particularly the banks, involve huge overheads that will become increasingly uncompetitive. "Consumers need the full range of financial services but at different times of their lives," he adds. Thus the sales team maintains a continous relationship ready with the necessary services as and when they are required.

Things are moving fast. But it could take a decade before any of these visions is fully realized. Only then shall we discover whether competition will evolve a single new pattern of retail financial services or whether a number of different kinds of network will coexist.

APPOINTMENTS

Directors named at Montagu Unit Trust

Montagu Unit Trust M[illegible] agers: **Mr Mark Vaughan-L[illegible]** an executive director of Sam[illegible] Montagu & Co, has beco[illegible] chairman of Montagu U[illegible] Trust Managers. **Mr Bill Rar[illegible] botham** has been appoin[illegible] managing director and **Stephen Poynter** a director [illegible] the company.

Norcros: **Mr A. D. Webb** [illegible] resigned from the board and **David Smith** has beco[illegible] finance director in his place.

London Brick: Mr Jere[illegible] **Rowe**, chairman, has resig[illegible] from the board and will [illegible] succeeded by Mr Anth[illegible] Alexander (a director of Han[illegible] Trust).

Scottish Offshore Investi[illegible] **Mr H. J. Arbuthnott** has b[illegible] made a director.

Standard Telephones a[illegible] Cables: **Mr Daniel P. We[illegible] cock**, president ITT Europe [illegible] executive vice-president of I[illegible] Corporation, has been [illegible] pointed a director. He succe[illegible] **Mr John W. Guilfoyle** as one [illegible] the three ITT representatives [illegible] STC's board.

Heagreaves Group: **Dr M.** [illegible] **Scott** has become assist[illegible] managing director.

Freight Transport Ass[illegible] ation: **Mr Garry Turvey** [illegible] been made director-general. [illegible] succeeds Mr Hugh Featherst[illegible] who has retired.

Sterling Guarantee Trust: [illegible] **T. C. Harris**, managing direc[illegible] of the subsidiary compa[illegible] Earls Court & Olympia, and [illegible] **J. G. Lyon**, the group ch[illegible] surveyor have joined the boa[illegible]

Century Oils Group: **David Spilsbury** has b[illegible] appointed a director. **Mr M[illegible] B. Myers, Mr Andy J. Haym[illegible] Mr Trevor Holland, Mr Don [illegible] Isherwood, Mr Ray Lancas[illegible]** and **Mr George Shorten** [illegible] been appointed directors [illegible] specialized lubricants compa[illegible] Century Oils. Mr Vern[illegible] Lumb, who retires from [illegible] board, will continue in an act[illegible] advisory role.

Barclays Group Italia: [illegible] **Anthony Curmi**, assistant gro[illegible] general manager, has b[illegible] appointed group general m[illegible] ager of the company fr[illegible] September 26, upon the reti[illegible] ment of **Mr Ken Bromley**. [illegible] **Timothy Ward**, general m[illegible] ager (banking) in Italy has b[illegible] appointed deputy group gen[illegible] manager in succession to [illegible] Curmi. **Dr Gian Marco Petr[illegible]** has been appointed gen[illegible] manager (banking) in Italy fr[illegible] June 1.

Authorized Unit Trusts

1983/84 High Bid	Low Offer	Trust	Bid	Offer	Yield
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

Authorized Units & Insurance Funds

1983/84 High Bid	Low Offer	Trust	Bid	Offer	Yield
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

Insurance Bonds and Funds

1983/84 High Bid	Low Offer	Trust	Bid	Offer	Yield
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]



dit

street outlets Woolwich-type led by a battery terminals and re the building articularly well are at present ave the laws activities libera- ernment. ustomers to be in and arrange reds, mortgages, ll paying from redit payments ations, cash and

isaction" centre and into estate il, broking and as Lloyds Bank e opposite way ng.

carers claim that ady high street , the reality is

tents use the full inking services nt and deposit loans. There is to support the that they have integrated their ge and have customer aware- branch managers ir attitude and relation to con- small businesses e banks' compet- will take them a f five years to potential the.

view of Mr Mark head of Hambro made it a leading the industry over le that the banks can their market

APPOINTM...

Direct... named... Mont... Unit T...

STOCK MARKET REPORT

Index pushes ahead again as investors forget worries

By Derek Pain

...s shrugged off nagging ... about the director of ... n interest rates and the ... trike yesterday. Helped ... new time buying for ... ing three-week account, ... any lingering year-end ... king and tax loss selling ... ed, the market took on ... more positive stance. ... oney market rates also ... entiment.

...ugh best levels were not ... held, the FT 30-share ... nished at 867.0 points, ... points. At one stage it ... points higher. ...FT-SE 100 share index ... a similar pattern, ... elow its best at 1,102.2, ...

...-linked gilts again out ... ed the conventional ... The inflation stocks ... by about £½ with the ... et £¼ better.

... the shares of Kraft ... ons, the furniture mak- ... ended in December at ... return to the stock ... within the next two ... The company should be ... tell its shareholders of ... teresting trading links ... iddle Eastern – Asil ... – interests, before the ... One possibility is that ... ill undertake contract ... deals for various ... East developments. A ... on, including Mr David ... an acquired control at ... are last June.

...ng leaders Hanson Trust ... p to 194p awaiting ... ments on its tentative ... roach for US Industries ... United States. Hanson ... it is prepared to top a ... ment buyout bid of ... £279m). US Industries' ... neets today to discuss ... oprosal. Sir Gordon ... the Hanson director ... ble for its American ... s, said he was still ... that a recommended ... d be negotiated.

...o, for so long out of ... n the City, continued its ... turn to acceptability ... Mr Edward du Cann, ... n, and Mr Paul Spicer, ... met stockbrokers de ... nd Bevan. Analyst Mr ... Morton was impressed ... onrho's confident ap- ... Profits, he feels, should ... nprove sharply this year ... t.

...e of Fraser continues to ... te the Lonrho scene but ... orton says that although ... a price at which Lonrho would sell its near 30 per cent shareholding in the Harrods stores group, the aim remains to take over the company.

He expects the Griffiths report to be ready within six weeks.

Mr Morton believes the shares are a buy. Yesterday they rose 1p to 144p.

House of Fraser added 2p to 248p, and most analysts are now predicting profits of £39m to £40m for last year. Those casting around for a Fraser link with the Carter Hawley Hale bid will be disappointed. Carter sold its large Fraser slice some time ago and, according to Fraser's registrars, has not come back since.

BAT Industries, fresh from a £967m bid for Eagle Star, is being tipped as a "white knight" suitor to save Carter from the clutches of Ohio-based Limited Incorporated which has offered $500m to take a majority stake. Market analysis believe such a move unlikely.

Meanwhile, Debenhams was chased up 8p to 186p awaiting details of the link with Harris Queensway, headed by the acquisitive Mr Philip Harris. His group will take an interest in the furniture and Greens electronical side of the business, but market men dream of much bigger Harris plans for the department store group.

Coal Bank of Wales, founded 13 years ago by one time railway clerk Sir Julian Hodge, aged 79, had an enjoyable transition from the 163 facility market where the shares had traded at around 115p. The shares, subject of an introduction, quickly climbed to 128p.

Since word started to filter through that Sir Julian was about to realize his long cherished ambition to obtain a quote for CBW the shares have climbed on the 163 "twilight" market from 83p.

Generally bank shares were a shade firmer after their recent weakness. Bank of Scotland led the pack with a 12p advance to 649p.

But insurance shares displayed little enthusiasm with the exception of takeover favourite Commercial Union which came in for another speculative run – gaining 6p to 221p.

Oils were back in form with explorers particularly firm. Bryson, the Iish oil company with hopes of striking it rich in Columbia, advanced 30p to 265p and Eglinton, with similar ambitions, was 7p higher at 95p.

Bryson's first effort ended in disaster when its drill broke. This time round it is carrying out terrain tests before attempting another drilling exercise.

Elsewhere industrial paint makers Mebon gained 2p to 104p. It has acquired the manufacturing rights of the Metalife range of zinc rich coatings which are designed for the protection of steel "in virtually all environments". The company came to the USM in November at 96p.

Laird, the engineering group, gained 2p to 124p on the feeling that it could benefit from next week's expected award of the £200m Singapore railway contract.

AB Electronics, the high flying Welsh computer makers surged 35p to 525p following stockbroker visits. The nil paid rights went from 93p to 125p. Crystalate was another electronic share to spark – gaining 15p to 280p on the possible sale of its Royal Worcester ceramics concern. A stockbroker visit also helped the action.

Central and Sheerwood was unchanged at 9½p following the sale, for £360,000, of its merger broking Chesham Amalgamations and Investments to Grovewood Securities, part of Eagle Star and, therefore, now controlled by BAT Industries.

LCP Holdings at 90p was up 7p on hopes that it will sell-off Whitlock, its United States car parts arm. The company has already announced plans to float shares of its Evans Halshae garage group.

Beers, led by Bass, were strong. But Boddingtons' Breweries, once an industry high flyer, continued to bob around its 15 month low point despite a cheerful statement from Mr Ewart Boddington, chairman.

Rumours that Australian Mr Robert Holmes a' Court was attempting to increase his Fleet Holdings share stake, lifted the shares 8p to 162p.

British Vita edged ahead to 218p on the coming flotation in Australia ofits 40 per cent owned associate, Vita Pacific. Opening capitalization will be around £9m. The £445,000 sale of its H. G. East off-shoot to a consortium left British Syphon unchanged at 70p. East make respiratory equipment.

Holt Lloyd, makers of car care products, offered little response to a £4.5m rights issue. The cash is needed to take over (for £3.9m) a Canadian chemical distributor and to buy for £428,000 its South African distributor for its Turtle Wax polish. A new factory is to be built in Australia.

Market sentiment could be about to turn for Mr. Alan Sugar, businessman of the year. The price of his Amstrad group lifted 4p off its 80p low for the year yesterday. Next week he unveils his Far Eastern 64k personal computer which is said to have all the trimmings but with a no-frills price. It is expected to have two to three price models from £199 to £299 and has sold out in its first year's manufacturing of 350,000 units. Nervously, some analysts suggest the strong performance could put £10m on profits next year, but would not pack their widows and orphans funds.

The shares of Haden, the engineering and paint equipment group, rose by 6p to 234p yesterday on hopes that the company would win a £40m contract to build a paint plant for Vauxhall in Luton. Vauxhall is likely to put out tenders for the work, which is part of a £100m US investment in Britain within the next few weeks. A firm order should be placed by the end of the year, which would mean turnover in 1985 and profits in 1986. In 1982, the group made pretax profits of £8.62m figures for last year are which due in a few weeks.

Shareholders are offered one new share at 52p for every four shares held. Market price yesterday was 63p. The group estimates that its 1983/84 profits will emerge at £4.2m – more than double the previous year's performance.

Brixton Estates stuck at 125p. It is paying £1.75m for the 100 acre Woodside Estate at Dunstable. Seller is Talbot Motor.

Mr Robert Maxwell's British Printing and Communications jumped 10p to 168p. Profit figures are due soon.

The Hongkong market, up 50 points as the colony drew comfort from recent utterances by leading Chinese officials, had the predictable spill over effect in London with, for example, Jardine Matheson back at 100p. Hongkong Land was up a few coppers and Swire Properties, 5p higher at 61p.

Builders Higgs and Hill failed to react favourably to recent good results, falling 6p to 304p. But trading news supported *G. W. Sparrow (54p)*; Spirax Sarco (189p) and Vosper 173p. Wilson (Connelly) was also firmer. William Baird, up 5p, and Blockleys, up 20p, also improved on trading news. French Connection advanced 20p to 295p ahead of results.

After the dull response to its cash raising rights issue Hawley Group continued to improve, up 5p to 86p. The sudden end to bid talks involving DJ Alarms, the security business, continued to worry the shares, down a further 5p to 98p.

Gold shares rose by up to two dollars.

Daily equity turnover on Wednesday was valued at £263,709m (25,839 bargains). There were 3,650 gilt transactions. Total number of UK and Irish shares traded was 160.8 million.

Stockley in £21.3m land deals

Stockley, the former Turst Securities Holdings company which lost £7.4m last year, yesterday announced two significant property deals worth a total of £21.3m.

Both deals are being financed by the issue of shares. The group is buying three seperate blocks in London's Piccadilly, Sackville Street and Brewer Street for £19.5m, and 53 acres of freehold land in Stockley Road, Hillingdon, close to the group's Stockley Park Development, for £1.8m.

Morgan Grenfell, the merchant bank, is acting as owner of the London sites until Stockley shareholders approve the deal. The properties are being bought from a Dutch private company Anzar Investments NV, which is backed by private Swiss investors. They owned the blocks a month before Stockley signed contracts yesterday.

Total annual rental income from the London sites is £616,540.

In brief

● WILLIAM BAIRD: turnover for 1983 !195.44m (£185.56m). *Pretax profits £10.48m (£8.8mm).* Total net dividend 15.75p (14.35p). Board reports that 1984 should be another year of progress.

● JOHNSTON GROUP: Pretax profit for 1983 £5.9m (£6.27m). Turnover £60.19m (£53.06m). Total *dividend, 6.5p (6p).*

● THOMAS ROBINSON & SON: No dividend for 1983 (same). Turnover £7.93m (£9.52m). Pretax loss £697,000 (£672,000 loss).

● WILSON (CONNOLLY): Turnover for 1983 £60.92m *(£43.7m). Pretax* profit £13.35m (£10.1m). Total dividend, 2.47p (1.87p, adjusted).

● *G. W. SPARROW:* Turnover for 1983 £27.85m (£28.3m). Pretax profit £1.35m (£1.06m). Dividend, 1.75p (1.25p).

● RENISHAW (USM quote): Turnover for half-year to Dec 31, 1983, £3.82m (£2.72m). Pretax profit on ordinary activities £1.12m (£572,000). An interim dividend of 0.5p net is to be paid; board expects to recommend a dividend for the full year of 1.5p net, compared with 1.12) which was the minimum level indicated at the time of the flotation last May.

● STEWART WRIGHTSON HOLDINGS: Pretax profits for 1983 up from £9.93m to £10.74m. Total dividend 15p (14.3p).

● WALKER & HOMER GROUP: Turnover for half-year to Jan 31, 1984, £13.07m (£10.36m). Pretax profit £293,000 (£342,000). Company hopes to resume dividends at the year-end.

● VOSPER: *Year to Oct 31, 1983.* Turnover £26.13m (£30.48m). Pretax profit £2.71m (£1.73m). Total ordinary dividend 5.25p; total on deferred shares 1.05p.

● MOLYNX HOLDINGS: No dividend for 1983 (same). Turnover £1.37m (£973,000). Pretax profit £61,000 (£16,000).

TEMPUS

Profits double at ABP but outlook uncertain

In its first year as a private enterprise, Associated British Ports has at least demonstrated that it can improve on its performance as a state-controlled industry. Turnover increased only marginally, but pretax profit more than doubled, largely through a reduction in interest payments following the capital reconstruction and more efficient management of its assets and overheads, on increased volumes.

The share price has almost tripled from the 112p at which the company was valued when it was sold in February last year. It has gone as high as 299p but the price dipped sharply yesterday from 290p down to 278p. The main reason was not disappointment with the more than reasonable results, but the gloomy implications *of a drawn-out confrontation* between the miners and the Government. If the coal dispute continues too long it could have a significant effect on the 1984 results.

The company has already lost £2m a year of turnover and profit after the renegotiation of a contract with British Steel in Port Talbot. APB cannot afford further reduction in business.

The volume of business through the 19 ABP ports in 1983 was 83 million tonnes, six million higher than in 1982 and the highest recorded since the boom days of 1976.

The wild card which ABP retains discreetly up its sleeve is the impact of the free port status which has been granted to its Southampton and Cardiff ports. The company will not publicly assess the tangible benefits, but there is potential for a 10 per cent uplift in pretax profits. Growth is expected over the next five years in this area.

The main source of growth for ABP will come from its undercapacity. It could handle a 50 per cent increase in volume without any significant additions to its physical infrastructure.

Glynwed

The Glynwed "treatment" is working beautifully. Yesterday, the company shrugged off the problems of the recession which have ravaged its steel and tube making businesses and produced bumper profits for 1983. Pretax profits were up by 55 per cent on sales which rose buy just 9.6 per cent. Borrowings are down by £15m to £62.9m to produce a gearing of 50.7 per cent, against 64.2 per cent a year ago. All this was achieved after including £3m above the line for redundancy and plant closures.

The "treatment", works like this. When Glynwed buys a company it strips out cost by slashing stocks and waste. Then a new management team is installed with a promise of annual salary bonuses of up to 20 per cent if they hit the Glynwed target of 25 per cent plus return on capital employed.

At Durapipe, the plastic pipe manufacturing company bought by Glynwed for £3.8m in November 1981, the "treatment" has worked with stunning effect.

Since then the business has been turned from loss to profits of £800,000 in 1982 and £2m last year.

Elsewhere, only the distribution business is failing to make the grade. Despite the move from losses of £319,000 in 1982 to pretax profits of £393,000 last year the 25 per cent return on capital has yet to be achieved. Disposal of the business has been considered and rejected for the time being at least.

Much thought has also been given to South Africa, where weak demand, drought, and high interest rates continue to make business difficult. The big imponderable is the long term future of the steel businesses where each Government inspired rationalization further reduces Glynwed's steel purchasing options. But at 162p the shares are on a p/e ratio of 9.55 historic, leaving a reasonable amount of elbow room. Good value.

Wm Morrison

The Wm Morrison Supermarkets share price has been all over the place in the last year. At 210p, down 4p yesterday, it is up 3 per cent on the year against the market; down 3 per cent in the last six months; and up by a tenth in the last month, as one of the major beneficiaries, with a high historic tax charge, of the Chancellor's fiscal changes.

Explaining the volatility is straight forward. Morrison, a slick regional retailer with a Yorkshire/Lancashire stronghold, is facing tough competition from its old enemies, Asda, plus a fresh predator, Sainsbury, and the market is nervous about the two-way squeeze ahead.

The Morrison defence package appears to have three prongs, starting with tight control of working capital. Stocks registered a net upswing last year of nearly £5m, but at 7.1 per cent of sales, are still at the bottom end of the ratio's historic range. A heavy spate of openings, just to keep generating sales growth, also features in the strategy. Last year saw new stores opening at Atheywood and Wakefield, as well a extensions to sites at Keighley, Southport, Eccles and Gainsborough. New ventures at Grantham and Sheffield come on stream soon.

Out of a total sales gain last year of a fifth, roughly a tenth came from new stores, with existing businesses contributing some 4 per cent, and inflation accounting for the balance.

The cost of running hard in *an area of relatively low* prosperity – any Yorkshire spending spree has passed Morrison by – *shows through* in the figure for net interest payable, which is up by some £450,000, and reflects perhaps doubled borrowings to around £10m or more.

This is a tiny figure against equity of nearly £30m, but any group faced with competition which is buying growth through debt needs a good profit-and-loss account to carry off the performance. The group sounds confident enough about 1984 and market hopes of around £12m pretax may be realized. Morrison's p/e ratio of 16½, compared with Sainsbury's 20, suggests the market already decided who will win the Yorkshire struggle of Titans. But the judgment may be premature. Morrison's third defensive tactic is to learn from Sainsbury!

Gilts

Sterling's return to 80 on the trade-weighted index lit a small fire yesterday in gilts, but gains among longs of ¼ point hardly retrace ground lost earlier this week, even though money rates also eased.

The Government Broker ladled out perhaps another £100m of his long tap, this time at 89¼, so the sceptics are still aroung. Estimates of next week's banking figures have now risen to 1 per cent expansion in £M3, while poor United States money supply figures overnight for the fainthearted would paint a picture of monetary improvidence on both sides of the Atlantic, despite another like in primes to 12 per cent.

GRA set to redevelop race tracks

GRA Group has re... a number of "substantial ... from supermarket oper- ... or several of the 10 ... and racing stadia it ...s.

... is in the process of ... *ising the future of its* ... d while it intends to ... some for greyhound ... others will be sold for ... opment.

...stantial offers have been ... y supermarket operators ... cific sites, subject to ... planning solutions," ... pany said yesterday.

... White City Stadium in ... rsmith, London is ... ed to close in July when ... Conversion will take ... up of the site.

... group's pretax profits in ... *r to the end of last* ... fell from £638,000 to ...0.

Macpherson hints at rivals to Becker bid

A rival takeover bid may be made for Donald Macpherson, which manufactures Cover Plus *paints for Woolworth.*

Mr Rex Chester, chairman, said after the company's annual general meeting in London yesterday that he had received "a number of approaches" since A. B. Wilh Becker, the Swedish paints group mae its unwanted £13.6m offer last month.

"*I do not expect anyone* outside the industry to appreciate this, but we are a hot *property,*" he said.

"Nearly all the big paint companies in this country are owned by large conglomerates or chemical groups. We are one of the few independents left."

Mr Chester refused to be drawn further on the nature of the approaches or on whether he would welcome a bid from any of the companies that have been mentioned by stock market dealers as possible counter bidders. These have included Courtaulds offshoot, *International Paint,* and several of the big Continental paint manufacturers looking for a British base.

Shareholders were told that the present year will be one of significant progress for the group and that prospects for 1985 are better still. "Overall we are encouraged by performance in the year to date and by the successufl implementation of our rationalization programme," Mr Chester said.

In a formal defence document sent to shareholders last night, *Macpherson* said it expected tobe able to forecast higher dividends this year. The *document points out that* the company's share price has consistently been higher than Becker's 75p offer since the bid was made. Yesterday, the shares closed unchanged at 90p.

TV companies benefit from revenue boost

By Jonathan Clare

The television companies are still increasing their share of the national advertising cake at the *expense of press, outdoor* and local radio advertising.

They have increased their advertising revenue by 21 per cent from £384m to £465.6m over the last six months. This, together with well-contained costs from moderate wage settlements helped both Scottish Television and LWT (Holdings) show strong recovery in results announced yesterday.

STV's profits, after the Channel 4 subscription and Exchequer levy increased from *£1.9m to £2.6m last year.* But the company, which has the franchise for Central Scotland, *also took the opportunity* to raise more than £4m from its shareholders through a rights issue.

Short term, the cash will be used to finance two big series, one drama and one documentary. Long term, the purpose is to provide financial resources to ease STV into direct broadcasting by satellite (DSB).

Fielding Newson Smith, the stockbroker, believes that STV is now able to take on the bigger regional stations like Anglia and to show the industry the way forward through innovation like DBS. The whole industry *should now start to benefit from* a change of attitude by the Independent Broadcasting Authority to enterprise among the companies.

LWT, which has the franchise for weekend broadcasting in London increased its half year profits from £2.8m to £5.5m in the first half.

LWT's total turnover, which includes its publishing interests, is up by 23 per cent to £79.6m. This probably means thatit has lost some of its share of the national television advertising market. The big stations normally lose out to the smaller stations during boom times because their strength keeps them fully booked most of the time so extra advertising spills over *elsewhere.*

STV increased its share of the advertising market from 5.4 per cent to 5.6 per cent, partly helped by the break-up of the consortium sales company with Grampian.

STV's good results partly reflect its success in holding costs which rose by only 7.5 per cent last year. This year they are likely to creep up, but Mr William Brown, the deputy chairmann and managing director, hopes that the rise can be kept in single figures.

STV has no present plans to follow Central Independent Television has just set up a subsidiary to make programmes for outside sale. But it will benefit from its £100,000 *investment in Gregory's Girl* which is soon to be shown on Channel 4.

The main contribution to LWT's improvement came from the television side, where advertising was buoyant, particularly from the sale of Channel 4 air time. But the company has given a warning *that the same rate of increase in* turnover and profits is unlikely in the second half. Full year profits ought to be about £7.5m against £4m last time.

Druck raises interim payout

Pretax profits of Druck Holdings, which is quoted on the *Unlisted Securities Market,* rose from £462,000 to £557,000 in the half-year to December 31, 1983. Turnover expanded from £1.91m to £2.5m.

With earnings per share up from 3.3p to 4.6p, the interim dividend, net, is being lifted from 1.1p to 1.3p. The board reports that the company has record orders.

Base Lending Rates

ABN Bank	8½%
Barclays	8¾%
BCCI	8½%
Citibank Savings †	9¾%
Consolidated Crds	8¾%
Continental Trust	9%
C. Hoare & Co	*8½%
Lloyds Bank	8½%
Midland Bank	8½%
Nat Westminster	8½%
TSB	8½%
Williams & Glyn's	8½%

† Mortgage Base Rate.

* 7 day deposits on sums of under £10,000, 6¼%; £10,000 up to £50,000, 6¾%; £50,000 and over, 7¼%.

WALL STREET

Dow makes early advance

...York (AP-Dow Jones). ... moved higher in early ... and the Dow Jones ...al average was up about ...ints. Advancing and ...g issues were about in ...nce. Trading was mod-...

...Arthur Ammann, vice- ...t at Boettcher, said he ...expect the market's rally ... "There's too much ... about interest rates and ...a rise in the dicount rate ...ld it back from any ...nt rally", he added.

...g the prime rate in- ...) 12 per cent from 11½ ...t by several leading ... Mr Ammann said the ... already in the market ... discount rate is a more ... concern. He said the ...s of the market, besides ... rates, also cover such ... as the dollar and the ...

...nmannn is looking for a ...t will break through the ...ows and carry down to ... area."

...al Motors was up ½ at ...nternational Business ...s unchanged at 110⅞ ... unchanged at 38½, ...nstruments down 1⅛ at ...ital Equipment down ¼ ...onsanto down ⅜ at 113, ... down ⅛ at 94⅛ and ...wn ¾ to 108⅛.

...r Hawley Hale was 29 ...onsanto 89¾ up ¼. Ford ...hanged, Caterpillar 51 ...ed, Morton Thiokol 75 ... Federal Express 31 ... United Technologies ... 1 and Hammermill ...¼ up 1.

	Apr 4	Apr 3		Apr 4	Apr 3		Apr 4	Apr 3
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

Blockleys profits top £1m

By Our City Staff

New products and the revival in private housebuilding have again helped Blockleys, the Telford brickmaker, to record profits of more than £1m against £652,000 the year before.

The shares rose by 20p to 395p against the 180p level when CH Beazer began to build up its stake, now just under 17 per cent. More than 50 per cent of the shares are in the hands of the directors and the Industrial and Commercial Finance Corporation.

The improvement was particulary helped by demand for Blockleys' paviors (special clay bricks used for paving) from local authorities and hospitals. The company believes its success last year stems from its *decision to maintain full* production during the recession in the construction industry and so *keep* its unit costs low.

Margins should improve further this year now that other *brick producers* have finshed rationalzing their stocks.

Results should also improve substantially this year *on the* back of continued investment in new products and better market share. The dividend was increased by 5 per cent to 15.5p.

The finance director, Mr Sam Dias, said later: "We hope for a full Stock Exchange listing at around 33p." The shares closed last night at just under *30p.*

The company is "quietly confident" that 1984 will be another successful year, but Mr Dias warned that the group was beginning to experience some *effects from* Britain's high unemployment.

Earnings per share last year were 5.43, (2.23p), and the final dividend will be 0.75p making an increase in the total payout for 1983 of 50 per cent on 1982.

MONEY MARKETS

Period rates took an easier line at the start, but came off the bottom as the morning wore on and the market began to worry about the chances of the Bank of England not being able to buy out the day's shortage. Year-end considerations confused matters somewhat.

Activity in paper was all at the short end – nothing beyond *three months.*

Interbank, overnight money firmed from opening ¼-⅛ per cent to 8½-⅜ per cent by midday. And when the Bank undershot with its intervention programme to the tune of about £130m, rates swung up to touch 11 per cent near the finish.

Dollar rates, firmer from the outset in reflection of a high FED funds rates, moved up further when First National Bank of Chicago raised its prime rate from 11½ per cent to 12 per cent.

Houses were less wlling to part with their paper yesterday *partly due to end financial year* considerations.

So, after a morning of *relatively cheap credit,* the Bank of England was not able to match the £600m needed to relieve the shortage, and rates firmed accordingly.

Anticipating a hefty early round of bill purchases by the authorities, houses paid no more than 8⅛ per cent or 8¼ per cent for funds at the outset.

FOREIGN EXCHANGES

Boosted by a few United States banks raising prime rates by *½ a point to 12 per cent,* the dollar rebounded from static levels to most currencies and finished with a *late flourish* which also carried sterling to its best levels against Europeans.

The pound added *just 10* points on the day at 1.4340 and its trade weighted ratio gained *0.1 to 80.0.*

Dealers said the initial prime rate move from First National *Bank of Chicago had caught* the market on the hop, as Fed funds rates had been drifting slightly during the afternoon and Eurodollar rates had eased slightly which had in turn been reflected in sterling rates.

Unchanged to the Deutschemark at 2.6170, the dollar closed ½ a centime up on French francs at 8.0550 an 40 points better to Swiss francs at 2.1745. It slipped 25 points against *against* the yen, however, at 225.

After trading in a half cent range to the dollar, the pound ended ½ a pfenning up on the mark at 3.7550, 1¼ centimes firmer to Swiss francs at 3.1225 and 2 centimes better to French francs, 11.5450. It was unchanged to the yen at 323.

● Takeaway fight over VAT — YOUR OWN BUSINESS — ● Money in a fun pursuit

3,000 find themselves on the hot spot

By Derek Harris

About 3,000 small businesses are threatened by closure because of the Chancellor's intention to levy value added tax from May 1 on hot takeaway food. This is one conclusion of research mounted by the newly-formed Hot Takeaway Action Group (HOTAG) whose members range from the National Federation of Fish Friers to fast-food chains like Kentucky Fried Chicken whose franchisees are all small businesses. Chinese and Indian takeaway are also HOTAG members.

John Barnes, HOTAG chairman, who is managing director of Kentucky Fried Chicken in Britain, says the VAT move is seen as the biggest threat so far to the takeaways, with thousands of jobs likely to be lost as big chains cut back on labour and independents go out of business.

Thornton Baker, the accountants, are still working on an analysis of the research which HOTAG hopes to present to Nigel Lawson next Tuesday, when HOTAG is planning a day of demonstrations. Their hope is to influence the Chancellor *before the Finance Bill* embodying the VAT changes goes through Parliament.

Fish and chips and Chinese outlets, most of them independents, are most at risk from falling sales. Sales reductions of 10 per cent to 20 per cent are already being reported because of customer misconceptions about the May 1 timing.

These two forms of outlets account for 70 per cent of all hot food take-aways which are estimated in total at more than 18,000. Despite the growth in other fast-food outlets dispensing anything from hamburgers to kebabs, fish and chip shops still account for the largest slice in the fast food industry's annual sales of £1.2 billion. Fish and chip outlet sales are put at £500m, with 90 per cent of them in food taken away from the shops.

An important distinction drawn in the research is between the sit-down restaurant element in fast food selling that already attracts VAT and the take-away element which until now has not. In Chinese outlets, which account for £175m of turnover, 86 per cent of sales are takeaways.

The least affected sector should be hamburger outlets accounting for £325m in turnover, where only 37 per cent of sales are estimated to be takeaways.

Kentucky Fried Chicken, the biggest take-away chain with 360 outlets, of which 150 are small business franchises, has, because of the VAT threat, shelved an expansion plan for a further 350 outlets which would have created 10,000 new jobs.

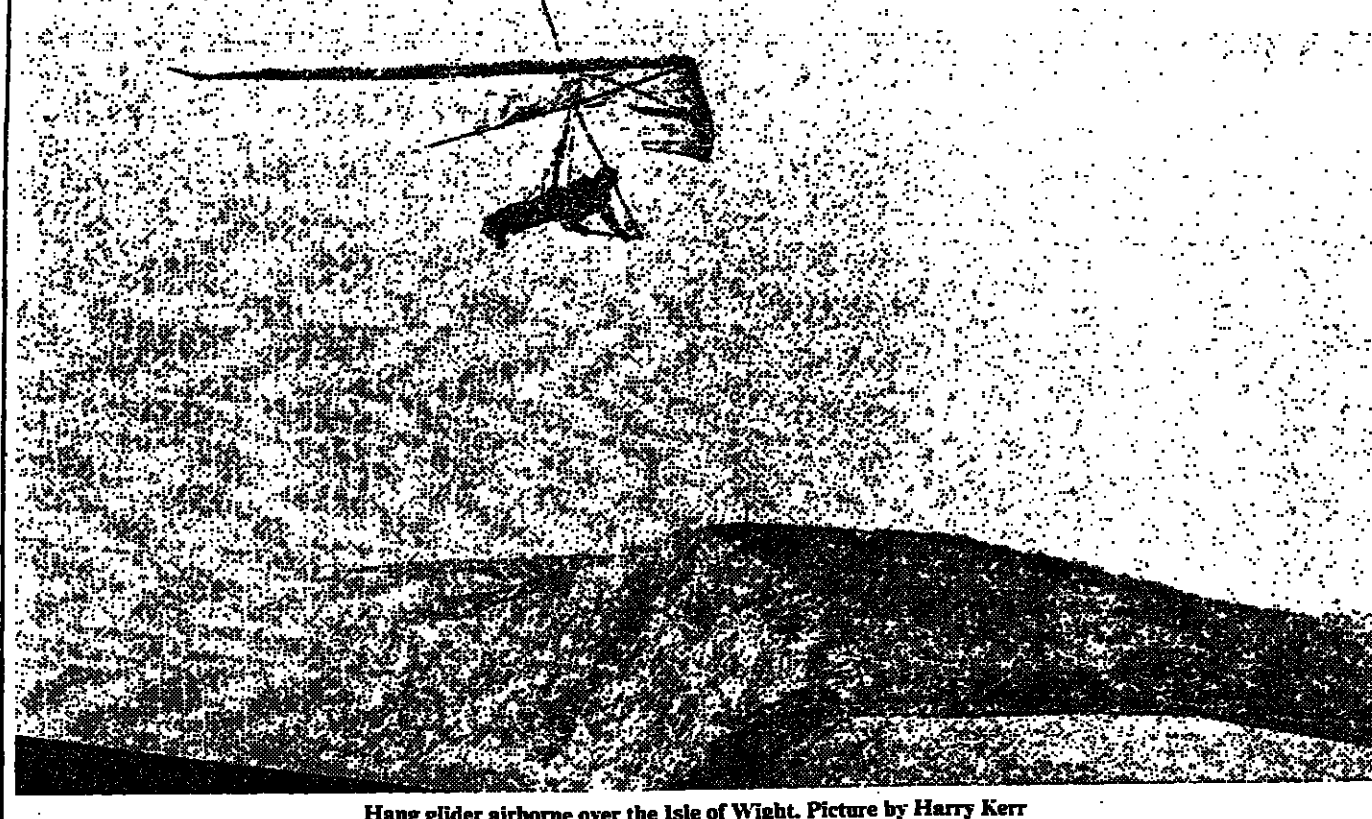
Consumer groups most likely to cut back on takeaway food buying are the unemployed, the retired, and students. Some areas of the country will be particularly hit by sales declines, with the Midlands standing to lose a quarter of its sales and the north of England up to a fifth or more.

A 14 per cent sales decline would reduce average net profit margins before tax in a small fish and chip shop to an extremely low level. Profits at present would be £5,250, but a 14 per cent sales decline would bring the figure down to £2,820; *a one-fifth sales loss would* typically leave a family with only £1,750.

HOTAG claims that rather than generating an extra £200m in tax revenue the VAT impost, because of closures and job losses, is likely to yield at most £172m and possibly as little as £160m.

Another question is how far some takeaway businesses may be able to avoid payment of VAT. A business might well be able to de-register for VAT by splitting into two completely separate businesses. There could be more switching to cold food sales. It looks as if there are going to be increasing complications over the definition of what constitutes hot food, which is being defined by the Government as above ambient air temperature.

But lawyers are suggesting that ambient air temperature strictly means the temperature of the surrounding air and that could be measured as air surrounding a dish in a container which could contain air hotter than the dish itself.



Hang glider airborne over the Isle of Wight. Picture by Harry Kerr

A sporting idea gets airborne

By Patricia Tisdall

Graham Deegan, a 29-year-old sailmaker and Rory Carter, a 33-year-old naval architect have turned a leisure-time interest in hang gliding into a thriving business. Inside four years their company, Airwave Gliders, has become internationally recognised as one of the leading manufacturers in this fast-growing sport. Exports are sent from their base at Cowes in the Isle of Wight to clubs, schools and groups of enthusiasts all over the world.

Deegan and Carter started out by identifying the most popular glider then on the market and travelling to New York to negotiate a licence to manufacture it in Europe. The next step was to arrange finance, which they obtained through a bank loan using personal assets as a guarantee. Premises were found in a nursery factory estate owned by the IOW County Council.

One of the advantages of acquiring a manufacturing licence for an existing product was that it also brought an introduction to a network of dealers and agents prepared to distribute the new company's products. This network has since been developed and



Graham Deegan (left) and his partner Rory Carter

expanded; there are 15 to 20 agents in the UK alone. As well as travelling about Europe talking to dealers, the two founders also spend most of their weekends demonstrating their gliders and talking to enthusiasts at rallies and competitions.

"There is really no substitute for going out and talking to people", says Graham Deegan. Deegan and Carter do not have much time these days to take part seriously in competitions, but two of their 25 staff are enthusiasts. This is helpful in terms of promoting the products but Deegan points out that it is a method which should be regarded with some caution. "The trouble is that enthusiasts are very rarely in the factory – *their main interest is in flying and they tend to be always away* at tests or competitions".

In developing methods of handling cash flow and finance, the partners also learned as they went along. In the early days, Airwave Gliders had one bad debt of about £10,000 from a French customer who asked for credit on the grounds that owing to French currency restrictions he was having difficulty in getting funds out of France. Then he went bankrupt. A cardinal rule now is to ask for cash before shipment.

After a fairly shaky start during the first 12 mnths, the company, now turning over about £100,000 a year, moved fairly rapidly into profit. All of this is being ploughed back to finance expansion. The initial nursery estate premises were outgrown within 12 months and the company moved to a commercial lease of a 5,000 sq ft factory which produces about 20 gliders a week but is also becoming too small.

Space is a real problem. The glider sails which have to be stretched flat during production each occupies a sizeable area and Airwave has 100 units or more under construction at any one time. In addition, since the tension of even the best quality sail cloth reacts to temperature and humidity the factory area not only has to be enclosed but also has to be heat-regulated. "We are at present trying to organize another building", says Deegan.

As soon as it had glider manufacturing under the American company's licence in progress, Airwave started developing its own designs, under the "Magic" name. Magic gliders Mark I went on the market at the end of 1982, Magic Mark II proved successful last year and Mark III has just gone into production. Almost half the production of these is being sold in America.

Airwave Gliders has benefited from operating in a community where there are other young, small organizations. A transport operator which distributes all the gliders on the mainland as well as bringing in raw materials has grown up alongside Airwave. An engineering firm which produces specially designed components for the fittings has also gained.

Business beckons in Arabia

■ The Government is considering subsidizing travel costs of British companies visiting Saudi Arabia to investigate the possibility of establishing factories there, *John Lawless writes.*

The move to get more companies, particularly medium-sized undertakings, to set up manufacturing joint ventures in what is by far Britain's biggest export market in the Middle East has the full backing of Mr Norman Tebbit, the Trade and Industry Secretary.

His officials are confident that trade relations with Saudi Arabia are at an all-time high. An unusually large team of 36 Saudi officials returned home equally pleased as a result of four days of talks in London last week.

At present, several thousand businessmen have their travel costs partly-funded by the British Overseas Trade Board (at, say, £400 per visit), when groups go on sales missions or take part in trade fairs. The British manufacturing presence in Saudi Arabia does not compare with those of its main trading rivals, the US, Japan and West Germany. Although there are up to 1,000 joint ventures there, they are mainly in the commercial or financial sectors, with up to 40 factories established or under consideration. ICI recently announced its first investment there with a comparatively small factory to make raw materials for rigid foam goods.

The Saudi Industrial Development Fund has substantial cash available, and will fund up to half the start-up costs. Finance is offered to cover pre-operating costs, plant, buildings and the first three months of operations, with an

BRIEFING

administrative charge of 2½ per cent being charged. The minimum value of a factory it will consider is £200,000, the maximum £80m. What will need to be explained to British firms is a new request from Saudi Arabia that firms winning contracts should invest 30 to 35 per cent of their proceeds in local joint ventures. The first contract to which it will apply is the communications package system of the AWAC planes bought from the United States for 2.9 billion dollars.

■ Small businesses are fast becoming one of the most courted areas of new business for computer dealers and now Burroughs Machines have announced the planned opening of a network of computer centres, *Geoffrey Ellis writes.* The first will be in Bristol, followed by Birmingham, Stockport and Leeds, with two planned for London. The company intends to offer a single source for all of a company's computing needs, from micros to minis.

Each of the computer business centres will be equipped with conference and audio-visual facilities, and will be able to offer training, either in the centre or on-site. David O'Brien, UK sales and marketing manager for Burroughs, said that the company must now identify with the problems facing small business managers, and organise the resources to provide the solutions. With an £11 million training centre at Milton Keynes available for residential training courses, the company is hoping that its multi-million pound investment will be attractive to small companies.

■ A seminar designed to help small companies in search of finance will be held on Monday, April 16, by the London Chamber of Commerce and Industry. It will cover the types of finance available from both public and private sectors, including the various sources of venture capital. Seminar cost for non-members of the LCCI: £31.63.

Contact: London Chamber of Commerce and Industry, 69 Cannon Street, London EC4N 5AB; telephone (01) 248 4444.

■ Government policy on management education for smaller businesses lacks direction and academia has done little to meet the need for a greatly expanded programme of training for smaller enterprises, argues a report commissioned by the United Kingdom Organising Committee for the European Year of Small and Medium Sized Enterprises.

It calls for a separate management training division within the Department of Trade and Industry.

Contact: copies from Bill Poeton, 21 South Terrace, London SW7; telephone (01) 589 1945.

■ Membership of the British Venture Capital Association (BVCA), after its first year of operation, has grown from 33 to 45 fund management groups. It now covers the bulk of British venture capital activity, representing more than £500m of equity funding committed or available for small growing businesses in Britain. The new chairman of the BVCA is Tony Lorenz.

Contact: BVCA, 1 Surrey Street, London WC2R 2PS; telephone: (01) 836 5702.



'Good grief, man! If I had any great ideas do you think I'd still be working here?'

PARLIAMENTARY NOTICES

SCOTTISH OFFICE
MARCH 1984
PRIVATE LEGISLATION PROCEDURE (SCOTLAND) ACT 1936
ASSOCIATED BRITISH PORTS (PORT OF AYR)

Notice is hereby given that application by Petition under the Private Legislation Procedure (Scotland) Act 1936 has been made to the Secretary of State in March 1984 by Associated British Ports ("A.B. Ports") for an Order for purposes of which the following is a concise summary:–
1. Construction of the following work in the parish of Newton-on-Ayr, in the district of Kyle and Carrick, in the Strathclyde region:– [illegible]

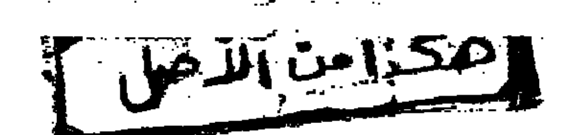
SHERWOOD & CO, Queen Anne's Chambers, 3 Dean Farrar Street, Westminster, London SW1H 9LG, Parliamentary Agents.

LEGAL NOTICES

THE COMPANIES ACT, 1948
In the Matter of [illegible] Limited
[illegible]

continued on page 28





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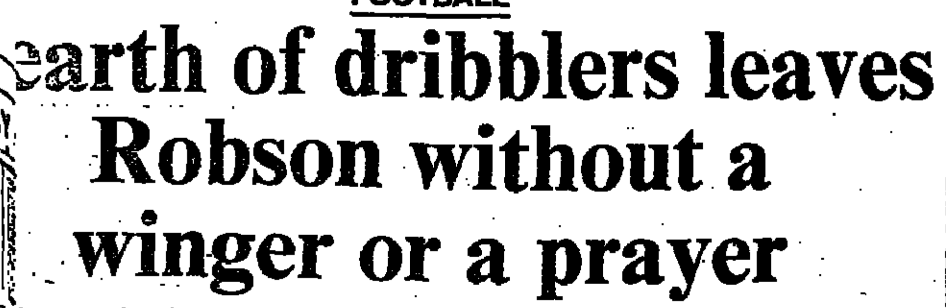
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several thousand ... ave their travel ... nded by the British ... e Board (at, sa ... when groups go ... or take part in trade ... sh manufacturing ... udi Arabia does not ... those of its main ... the US, Japan and ... Although there are ... nt ventures there ... in the commercial ... ctors, with up to 40 ... blished or under ... ICI recently ... first investment ... comparatively small ... raw materials for ... ods.
ndustrial ... Fund has substantial ... and will fund up to ... ip costs ... er pre-operating ... uildings and the ... of operations ...

IEFING

FOOTBALL

earth of dribblers leaves Robson without a winger or a prayer



Sports Commentary

David Miller

...is an unpalatable truth, ... knowledge among ...nal football managers. ...me people are trying to ...rel from the public. ...it in boardrooms from ...men with furrowed ...is whispered furtively ...bar after matches. ...y scouts reluctantly ... The FA's General ...chool of excellence at ... has been created ...of it.

...are no longer any great ...emerging because no-...ns the game properly. ...ect, watching England's ...throwing away their ...in Australia, New ...and Pakistan with a ...n of cross-batted shots. ...same is true in cricket. ...ormous improvement ...past 20 years in ...g so called minority ...s been achieved at the ...pense of football and ...there are alternatives ...re unavailable to most ...ears ago.

...will be quick to ...Bobby Robson for ...rather inadequate ...ver Northern Ireland ...ast British champion-...ounter on Wednesday ...t it would be a gross ...lification to believe ...ight manager – which ...someone other than ...in charge at the ... – would produce a ...n.

...t is that while England ...y more efficiently and ...her proportion of the ...ortant matches, there ...going to be again a ...laxy of entertainment. ...ie players are not to be ...ritish clubs dominate ...pean semi-finals be-...y are efficient rather ...illiant. How many ...f this newspaper can ...even half the Forest ...ch Brian Clough has ...the Uefa Cup semi-

...said yesterday that ...y's team, in which ...nade a reappearance ...hority, had the shape ...e would expect to use ...mmer tour of South ...and the World Cup ...competition – "al-...ving for the possible ...winger". Reflecting ...ck-street players have ...ng, perhaps we should ...ully, with many of the ...s – he admits that if ...find two outstanding ...e would play them ...ere will be four schoolboy wingers starting this autumn at Lilleshall.

It is too trite to say that Ramsey abolished wingers: he used Paine, Thompson, Connolly, and Ian Callaghan leading up to and including the 1966 World Cup but preferred Ball *and Peters* because they were relevant at that moment. Subsequently, a million PE teachers, schoolmasters and coaches obsessively employed 4-3-3, which helped eliminate the development of wingers, though they were already a dying breed because boys had stopped dribbling.

In terms of technical skill, I sincerely believe that in senior amateur football 30 years ago there were many players outside the professional game who could use the ball in a way we *seldom see among professionals* now. The England Amateur XI attack against Ireland in 1955 – Lewis (Walthamstow), Jeffreys (Doncaster), Darey (Wimbledon), O'Connell (Bishop Auckland), and Neil (Portsmouth) – could all have played for England's professionals on Wednesday night.

Neil, who also played for Wolves and Cambridge University, was temperamentally suspect *but probably the most* perfectly balanced and two-footed winger other than Mathews, *Finney or* Charlton that the English game has seen since the war – a better player than, say, Laurie Cunningham. Other international wingers included Twissel (RN) and Bradley (Bishop Auckland), who joined Manchester United after the Munich air crash and subsequently played for the England professional team.

There was little difference in the way amateurs and professionals learned to play. You kicked a ball around, often a tennis ball, if you were not actually in the classroom, for most of the day from mid-morning break until it became too dark to see it. You dribbled, because that was the best way to *keep the ball, and when the* month of May had arrived you picked up a bat instead and played in the nets until after nine, when missing the ball became painful. There was no TV.

Maybe Bobby Robson will not make a good international manager because he is *too interested in players. His own* first international match was alongside Douglas, Tommy Taylor and Finney. He said yesterday that he considered his job was to look at the players available, like a hand of cards, and then find a system which would include all of the best players. "That's what I did at *Ipswich*."

Yet there is a powerful school of opinion which believes this is precisely the opposite of what the international manager should do, compared with the club manager. Miljan Miljanic, twice World Cup manager for Yugoslavia, claims the two are exact opposites: the *international manager must decide* on a system and then pick players to fit it, the *only* way he can achieve continuity at monthly or so intervals. Certainly Ramsey did it this way.

Robson claims that attacking width is essential. If that is what he believes, then he should be playing John Barnes *now*. And *he should not be attempting* to make Lee – who had more of the ball than anyone but Wilkins, only to squander it with fruitless forward-angled crosses ahead of Francis and Woodcock – into another Coppell. Use Callaghan of Watford.

If Chamberlain of Stoke is Robson's sort of player, use him instead of Rix, who cannot or will not stay wide and hit the sort of cross which won the 1979 FA Cup final. It is one thing to believe that Wright *(Southampton) and* Watson (Norwich) are centre backs of tomorrow, as Robson does: what the team needs is to know how it is expected to play next week, next month, next year.

The reason why Ireland looked the better team for so much of the evening is that nine of them have been together for three years.

...oung England set ...o field 'reserves'

...will be forced to field a ...e side in the UEFA ...ophy semi-final, first leg ..., Maine Road, on April ...so *many players are* ...their clubs for games on ...the night before.
...re ruled out of the team ...ry Bailey, *Gary Stevens*, ...llaghan, Kevin Moran, ...e, Danny Wallace, Paul ...ry Mabbutt and Brian

...Robson, the England ...aid: "That date is not ...for international ...o we cannot demand ...ease. It's the same old ...ton Greenwood tells me ...ave *won the last three* competitions if we had ...field weakened teams at ...stages."

...County yesterday an-...hat Derbyshire County ...e likely to become the ...*of the* Baseball Ground ...Robert Maxwell. The ...ontrolling Labour group ...mmended that they buy ...*all Ground out of* the ...pension fund, lease the ...Mr Maxwell, who would ...t to the club. The council ...have talks with the ...publisher to discuss the

...ave also called a meeting of unsecured creditors for April 16 to discuss their 50 pence in the pound repayment offer.

● The Football League have given *Millwall permission to postpone* tomorrow's home third division match with Port Vale because of illness. Influenza and a chest infection are *affecting 10 players*, and George Graham, the manager has ordered the six fit members of his playing staff to stay away from the ground until the illness clears.

Football losing spectators as a *slave to television*, page 25

● Sepp Pionteik, the West German *trainer who has guided Denmark* into the finals of the European championship, is to sign a four-year contract *with the Danish Soccer* Association. A DBU spokesman confirmed reports that Piontek had turned down an offer to manage *Tottenham* Hotspur when Keith Burkinshaw leaves at the end of the season.

● Paul Rideout, the Aston Villa forward, has gone into hospital for a minor thigh operation. He is expected to be out of action for two weeks, leaving Mark Walters as the only regular striker now available for tomorrow's home game with Coventry City.



...einz Rummenigge, the West German captain, shakes ...with Ernesto Pellegrini, the president of Inter Milan, ...igning a *three-year contract* with the Italian club, ...a last-minute hitch which threatened his £2.93m ...rom Bayern Munich. Only after a West German bank ...ned to provide guarantees *did the deal go ahead.*

WEDNESDAY'S RESULTS

...CHAMPIONSHIP: England 1, ...land 0
...DER-21 CHAMPIONSHIP: *Quarter-*...nd leg: Yugoslavia 3, *Scotland* 1 ...ime; aggregate 4–3).
...DIVISION: Hereford United 1, ...United 1
...PREMIER LEAGUE: Boston *United* ..., Maidstone 1, Worcester 1; Telford ...rn 1. Bob Lord Trophy: Semi-final, ...eovil 0, Scarborough 2.
...N PREMIER LEAGUE: Matlock 0, ...0, Mossley 0, Worksop 3.
...N LEAGUE: Premier division: ...1 Fisher 1
...LEAGUE: First division: *Newcastle* ...2, Sheffield United 0, Aston Villa 6; ...d 2, Blackburn 1, West Bromwich ...Derby 1. Second division: Preston 0,
...L COMBINATION: Norwich 4, ...Reading 2, Tottenham 6.
...LEAGUE: First division: Feltham 1, Clapton 1. Second division: Horsham 2, Newbury 1; Molesey 1, Barton 1.
ROMANIAN LEAGUE: Bacau 2, RM Uylcea 1; Politechnica Jassy-CS 2, CS Tirgoviste 0; Corvinl Hunedoara 2, *OLT 0*; Universitea Craiova 0, Jiul Parosani 0; Dunarea CSU Galatz 2, Petrolul Ploiesti 0; ASA TG Mures 2, Baia Mare 0; Arges Pitesti 3, Bihor Oradea 1; Rapid 0, Sportul Studentesc 1.
PORTUGUESE CUP: Semi-final, replays: Porto 2, Sporting Lisbon 1; Rio Ave 1, Vitoria Guimaraes 1 (Rio win 4–3 on penalties).
SWISS LEAGUE: Neuchatel Xamax 1, Lucerne 0; Young Boys Berne 2, Saint Gall 2; Vevey 1, Wettingen 1; FC Zurich 2, Bellinzona 1; Servette 3, Basle 1; Aarau 0, Sion 2; Lausanne 1, La Chaux-De-Fonds 0; Chiasso 0, Grasshoppers Zurich 1
FRENCH CUP: Quarter-finals, first leg: Lens 0, Toulon 1; Nantes 2, Mulhouse 0; Monaco 4, Cannes 2.
SPANISH CUP: Semi-finals, first leg: Real Madrid 0, Athletic Bilbao 1; Barcelona 2, Las Palmas 1.

Bangor set to clear their debts

By Paul Newman

Bangor City entertain Dagenham *in the first leg of th FA Trophy* semi-finals tomorrow, hoping to raise enough money through the turnstiles to pay off the last of their debt to the Inland Revenue. The Alliance Premier League club were again saved from closure this week when they obtained a second two-week adjournment in the High Court of a winding-up order.

When John-Ross Jones, a lawyer, *became chairman of Bangor a year* ago the Welsh club had a tax debt of £30,000. Despite reducing it to less than £9,000 the club were brought to court last month and earned their first reprieve by making a payment of £3,000. On Monday they provided a further £2,500 but were told they must pay off the rest of the debt by April 16.

Bangor are hoping for an attendance of 4,000 tomorrow, but even if they fail to raise enough money from the gate Mr Ross-Jones will pay the deficit himself. Bangor's *directors have already provided* £20,000 and Mr Ross-Jones has paid £10,000 from his own pocket.

"After all we've done, I'm not going to let the club go under for this small amount of money," he said. "We feel the Inland Revenue are being harsh on us. There are other clubs with bigger debts than ours and we have made real efforts to find the money. We could have let the club be wound up and start again with a new club, like others have done, but we have chosen instead to meet our debts and it *seems we are being punished* because of it."

Bangor have other debts of around £10,000 and have also taken out a loan of £59,000. Although the club are likely to be relegated next month their attendances have not dropped – their average this season is about 600 – and an FA Cup run which ended in a second round replay defeat at Balcpool provided a valuable source of revenue.

● Worcester City have appointed Bobby Shinton as player-manager. The *former* Manchester City, Newcastle and Millwall midfield player, succeeds Nobby Clark, who was dismissed in February after nine years in charge of the *Alliance* Premier League club.

● Tony Lee, the manager of Whitby Town for the last four years, is to resign at the end of the season. The Northern League club this season recorded the first ever victory over League opposition in the FA Cup, winning away at Halifax Town, and also reached the quarter-finals of the FA Trophy. Their league challenge has faltered in recent weeks, however, and after *leading* the table for much of the season they now appear out of contention for the championship.

● The Central Midlands League have postponed until 1985 their plan to form a new divison comprised of senior clubs in the area. Most of those interested in joining had missed the deadlines for resigning from their own leagues.

● The Isthmian League's plans for an extra divison next season look certain to go ahead. Most of the 21 applicants are progressing well with the necessary improvements to thier grounds.

GOLF: MOST OF FANCIED TEAMS SURVIVE HALFORD HEWITT FIRST ROUND





Cap that: Brian Chapman (Bradfield) keeps his eye in as he drives, lines up a putt and watches it miss in the match against Eton (*Photographs: Chris Cole*).

Christmas gift for Charterhouse

By Nicholas Keith

April lived up to its poetic reputation of being the cruellest month for the start of the Halford Hewitt yesterday. The weather was never better than grey and cold, and heavy rain turned the afternoon into a numbing purgatory.

Most of the fancied teams survived the first round, although some do not take the stage until this morning. Watsonian's, who won the event in 1981, had their first victory since then after a tight match aganinst Repton, at Deal. The crucial point was claimed by White, the Watsonian captain, and Neave, who took control of the bottom match by winning the thirteenth (420 yards) with a *birdie to go three* up. They finished their opponents off on the fifteenth green.

Shrewsbury, last year's runners-up, started poorly, but came from behind to beat Cheltenham. Their conquerors last year, Charterhouse, were in commanding form, and their top pair, Benka and Hughesdon, won 8 and 7. Christmas, in the second match, played a fine drive to win the fourteenth and the game. His partner, Scott, revealed that Christmas was "just coming on to his game". Charterhouse beat Gresham's 4-1.

Marlborough's next opponents are Eton, who scraped through after losing the first two matches to Bradfield. *However, the Marquez* brothers, from Madrid, stopped the rot, and there were 4 and 3 wins for the two bottom Etonian pairs, *Fisher and Hurst and Critchley* and Martyn.

At Sandwich, Merchiston carried all before them against Ampleforth, but reported that there was room for improvement if they were to beat Stowe, today. Michael Bonallack, the secretary of the Royal and Ancient, and his brother, Tony, were involved for opposing schools, Haileybury and Chigwell, respect*ively. Both lost their matches*

First round
DEAL: Epsom bt City of London, 5-0; Loretto bt The Leys, 4½-½; Marlborough bt Clifton, 3-2; *Eton* bt *Bradfield*, 3-2; *Shrewsbury* bt Cheltenham, 3½-1½; Glenalmond bt Brighton, 4-1; King's, Canterbury bt Wellingborough, 3½-1½; Watson's bt Repton, 3½-1½; Charterhouse bt Gresham's, 4-1; Cranleigh bt Winchester, 4-1; Bedford bt Fettes, 3-2; Wellington bt Forest, 5-0.
SANDWICH: Stowe bt St Bees, 4-1; Merchiston bt Ampleforth, 5-0; Harrow bt Hurstpierpoint, 5-0; Sherborne bt Framlingham, 4½-½; Wrekin bt Merchant Taylors', 3-2; Blundell's bt Aldenham, 3-2; Lancing bt Berkhamstead, 4-1; Chigwell bt Haileybury, 3-2; Whitgift bt Highgate, 3-2; Felsted bt Bishop's Stortford, 5-0; Trent bt Westminster, 3-2; Taunton bt Dulwich, 4-1.

Wood follows maxim to leave his rivals blowing in the wind

From Mitchell Platts, Greensboro, North Carolina

You drive for show and putt for dough. It must be the oldest adage in professional golf and Willie *Wood, one of the game's newest* recruits, followed it to the letter with a fine first round of 68 in the Greater Greensboro Open here yesterday. Using a recently-acquired driver, Wood struck the ball with controlled precision on the Forest Oaks Country Club course. Unfortunately his approach work left something to be desired, but on the greens he was in complete charge.

Wood is a product of Oklahoma State University. Coincidentally, Danny Edwards, twice a winner at Greensboro, hails from Oklahoma and Wood was quick to point out that if the wind continues to blow, it will not affect his game. "Guys like Danny and I, who have been brought up playing golf in Oklahoma, know all about windy conditions", he explained.

In truth the wind yesterday morning was a mere zephyr compared to the tornadoes which whipped through North Carolina last week, causing widespread destruction. Nevertheless it was still strong enough, coupled with the residue of the torrential rain which fell on Wednesday, to make the course play to every one of its 6,984 yards. Since Wood stands only 5ft 7in tall and weighs less than 10st it *would appear on the face of it that* in such a situation he might struggle against some of the biggest hitters.

Wood, however, showed during the Walker Cup at Hoylake last summer that he has the ability to make a name for himself in the professional world. Indeed he won his player's card for the United States tour by winning the qualifying tournament last November. And he did it in style. *Wood had six rounds of 72 or better* on none other than the Tournament Players Club course at Sawgrass, where so many of the world's greatest players struggled last week.

Wood started from the tenth and covered his first nine holes in 35. He had three birdies, with putts ranging from eight to 15 feet, but it was on his second nine that he really made his move.

Wood has the extra incentive of knowing that a victory would earn him an eleventh-hour place in the US Masters. Nick Faldo, of course, already has his ticket for Augusta but he would like to go there with a sound performance under his belt this week. Over his first nine holes, Faldo seemed to be struggling with his swing, as he pushed several shots to the right, but his determination won through and he covered his outward half in a level par of 36.

Faldo: inward 35 brought *71 in first round*

First round: Early leaders (US *unless stated*): 68: W Wood, 69: B Gardner; 70: D Peoples, C Pavin, P Jacobsen; J Haas. 71: J Nelford, V Heafner; L Elder; V Regalado. 72: J Thorpe, B Wadkins; B Fleisher; J Renner, R Caldwell, M Pfeil; F Couples.

IN BRIEF

Pigott agrees to Somerset terms

Tony Pigott, the Sussex and England fast bowler, has agreed to join Somerset. His signing is subject to the approval of the Test and County Cricket Board's registration *committee, but Tony Brown, the* Somerset secretary, believes there will be no difficulties. Pigott who will visit Taunton today to sign and to discuss further details, rejected a new contract with Sussex.

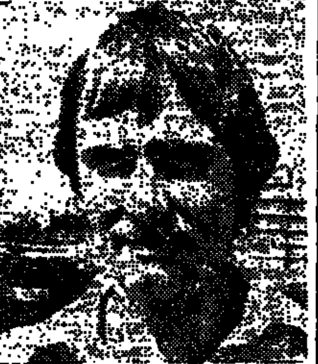
RUGBY UNION: The French Barbarians have announced a squad of nine for the Melrose seven-a-side tournament on April 14, including two men who played in the five *nations championship decider* in Scotland last month – Jean-Luc Joinel, the back row forward, and Pierre Berbizier.

SQUAD: M Andrieu (Nimes), P Detrez (Nimes), P Donzelli (Lourdes), J L Joinel (Brive), P Berbizier (Lourdes), A Mournet (Bagneres), D Camberabero (La voulte), P Barbotteau (Angouleme) and A Caussade (Lourdes).

● With two days to go before the French name their party for the tour of New Zealand in June, Joinel has still not informed the selectors whether he is available.

MOTOR RACING: The European championship Formula Two race which was due to be staged in Fuengirola, Spain, has been switched to the French course of Le Castellet, on *July* 8. Fuengirola, chosen to replace New York as a Formula One venue this season, will stage the Spanish Grand Prix on October 21.

BASKETBALL: Tight security was mounted in South Korea yesterday



Pigott: turned down Sussex

as the first Chinese sportsmen to visit the country arrived to take part in the eighth Asian youth championships, beginning tomorrow. It is only the second direct sporting contact between Peking and Seoul, which have no diplomatic links.

WATER SKIING: *Liz Hobbs*, of Britain, who won the women's world water ski racing chapionship in Australia last January, may not be able to defend her title in the United States in 1985 after losing her main sponsorship. She said yesterday: "My running costs alone for a season *are a minimum of* £10,000, and last year we blew up six engines which cost £5,000 apiece."

YACHTING

Italians see their star ascendant

From Banry Pickthall
Vilamoura, Portugal

The Italians, Giorgio Gorla and *Alfio Peraboni, looked well-placed* to strengthen their grasp on the Star world championship last night after building up a commanding lead over their 77 rivals on the first beat of the fifth race.

The start had been delayed for almost four hours after an over-eager fleet and shifting wind caused a succession of general recalls. And, even when the race finally got under way *at the seventh attempt*, a far greater number of yachts than the three disqualified were over the line as the gun fired.

Before this race, Gorla and Peraboni were lying in fourth place overall behind Bill Buchan, Andrew Menkart and Paul Caynard, of the United States

Britain's leading crews, Howlett and Tavinor and Boyce and Munge, *were also well down the fleet*. Howlett and Tavinor being the best placed *in nineteenth position*. Iain Woolward and John Maddocks, the third British team, were forced to retire from the series yesterday

More yachting, page 25

SQUASH RACKETS

Norman shows old friends new strokes

By Colin McQuillan

Ross Norman, of *New Zealand*, earned a quarter-final tilt at Jahangir Khan when he beat Gamal El Amir, of Egypt, in the British Open championship, sponsored by Davies and Tate, at Brighton yesterday.

It was a remarkable feat for the New Zealander, who had worked his way back into the sport after suffering a devastating knee injury as a result of a parachuting accident last summer. He had defeated South Africa's Stuart Hailstone in a long first round match and then the *Australian, Glenn Brumby, in the* second round.

Ironically he turned the ankle of his uninjured leg in the opening game and spent most of his off-duty time in hot and cold soaks. "I just wish I was in the other half of the draw here," he said wryly. "In last week's French Open I beat the Australian champion, Chris Dittmar, and the man who took my New Zealand ranking, Stuart Davenport, *only to run up against* Jahangir in the semi-finals."

Earlier he had produced a clinical, *almost dismissive performance* against the world No 6, Dean Williams, at Stockton before losing to Gawain Briars.

Other players are amazed by the range of strokes Norman has developed to compensate for losing the fluid court mobility that was the basis of his largely attritional game before the accident.

"I had a lot of time to think while I was retraining my body and learning to move with the least stress of the left knee," he explains. "I realize my racket work and shot ability was as good as anybody's so I had better start using it."

Such a philosophy would have been helpful for Hiddy Jahan, the England first string hoping to lead the host country into the quarter-finals in strength with Gawain Briars and Geoff Williams playing later in the day. "But it was one of those days when I could not even get started," the 34-year-old, who has been among the last eight on the British Open in each of the past 13 years, admitted.

"I went on confident I could *repeat the last five wins I have had* against Maqsood Ahmed, but my breathing was wrong and I was just unable to compete physically against his tight play. Perhaps after all these years I was even nervous."

MEN'S SINGLES: Second round: R Hill (Aus) bt B Beeson (Eng) 9-8, 9-4, 9-2. Third round: *Maqsood Ahmed (Pak) bt H Jahan (Eng)* 9-2, 9-4, 9-2; Jahangir Khan (Pak) bt M Saad (Egypt) 9-3, 9-6, 9-2; S Davenport (NZ) bt N Zahran (Egypt) 9-0, 9-0, 9-2; R Norman (NZ) bt G El Amir (Egypt) 9-4, 10-8, 9-5.
WOMEN'S SINGLES: Second round: S Cogswell (Eng) bt R Belford (Aus) 4-9, 9-6, 9-7, 9-0; C Clonda (Aus) bt A Cowie (Eng), 6-9, 7-9, 9-3, 10-8, 9-5. Third round: *M le Moignan* (Eng) bt L Brown (Eng) 9-1, 9-0, 9-3; J Miller (Aus) bt N Spurgeon (Eng) 4-9, 9-4, 9-2, 9-0; A Smith (Eng) bt J Ashton (Eng) 9-5, 10-8, 0-9, 9-5; L Opie (Eng) bt H Wallace (Scot) 9-5, 9-1, 9-0.

CYCLING: Graham Jones, from Manchester, has had to withdraw from the Sealink International, which begins in Skelmersdale on Monday, after being injured in a riding accident in France. His place in the PCA squad will be taken by Dudley Hayton, of Shipley, who switches from the England team. Glenn Mitchell of London, replaces Hayton.

FOR THE RECORD

BASEBALL
AMERICAN LEAGUE: New York Yankees 4, Kansas City Royals 3; Boston Red Sox 2, California Angels 1; Oakland Athletics 4, *Milwaukee Brewers 8*; Seattle Mariners 3, Toronto Blue Jays 2 (10 innings).
NATIONAL LEAGUE: Atlanta Braves 4, Philadelphia Phillies 0; Houston Astros 8, Montreal Expos 2; New York Mets 2, Cincinnati Reds 8.

SNOOKER
BRISTOL: World professional championship: Qualifying round: M Mallett bt P Burke, 10–5; E *Sinclair bt P Browne, 10-1 Latest scores:* D Martin leads W King 6–3; M Morra leads D Reynolds 4–2.

CURLING
DULUTH: World championships: *Fifth round:* Sweden 6, United States 4; Canada 6, Italy 1; Scotland 5, Austria 1; Switzerland 7, West Germany 5; Norway 7, Denmark 1. Sixth round: Italy 7, Denmark 5; Switzerland 6, Canada 4; Norway 6, United States 5; Scotland 6, Sweden 4; West Germany 7, Austria 2.

ICE HOCKEY
NATIONAL LEAGUE: Quebec Nordiques 3, Buffalo Sabres 2; Washington Capitals 4, Philadelphia Flyers 2; Montreal Canadiens 2, Boston Bruins 1; New York Islanders 4, New York Rangers 1; St Louis Blues 3, Detroit Red Wings 2; Chicago Black Hawks 3, Minnesota North Stars 1; Calgary Flames 5, Vancouver Canucks 3; Edmonton Oilers 9, Winnipeg Jets 2.

GOLF
CHEPSTOW: PGA Under-25 championship: 146: D Ray (72, 74); N Riley (75, 71); 148: G Broadbent (76, 72); M Grieve (75, 73).

BOXING
BANGKOK: King's Cup: Flyweight: Heo Hong-Mo (S Korea) bt J Finch (Aus); I Bilalal (Ken) knocked out B Harris (Aus) first round; Park Sae Ho (S Korea) bt S Charoensak (Thai) pts. Welter: Chung Yong-Beom (S Korea) bt Y Takahashi (Jap) pts. Yong-Su (S Korea) bt C Sukkasem (*Thai*) pts; *P Wangyoka (Ken)* bt L Frannosen (Nor) pts; I Akovkohian (USSR) knocked out B Siakom (Thai) second round; Lightheavy: Park Soon-Il (S Korea) bt K Onwuka (Nigeria) pts; S Okello (Ken) knocked out A Inkamket (Thai) second round; V Shin (USSR) knocked out T Wawyer (Aus) first round.

BADMINTON
Inverclyde: European Under 18 six nations international tournament: *Group A*: Scotland 7 Norway 0; England 7, Norway 0.
Group B: Denmark 6, West Germany 1; Sweden 6, West Germany 1.

TENNIS
Houston: WCT tournament: J Arias (US) bt E Dibbs (US) 6-2, 4-6, 6-4, T Mayotte (US) bt A Krickstein (US) 4-6, 6-3, 6-2; W Scanlon (US) bt *P McNamee (Aus)* 6-1, *6-3, S Giammalva (US)* bt J Higueras (Sp) 6-0, 6-1.
Inglewood, California: C Evert-Lloyd by A Jaeger 6-1, 6-1.
Osaka: J. McEnroe bt Y Noah 7-5, 0-6, 6-3.
Pompano Beach, Florida: USTA circuit: R Krishnan (Ind) bt E Kleege (US) 6-0, 6-1, S Brawley (US) bt R Fagel (US) 7-5, 2-6, 6-1; T Cain (US) bt B bRescia (US) 6-1, 6-3; D Tarr (SA) bt W Calpkay (US), 6-1, 6-2; B Schultz (US) bt *M Fancutt (Aus)* 6-0, 6-1; K Warwick (Aus) bt R Saguso (US) 7-6, 6-2, K Flach (US) bt C Steyn (SA) 6-4, 6-4; A Stepanek (WG) bt R Acuna (Chile) 7-6, 2-6, 6-1; A Andrews (US) bt S Stroda (US) 7-5, 6-7, 6-4; P Lehnhoff (US) bt B Piela (Aus) 1-6, 6-3, 7-6; J Lapidus (US) bt H McDadi (Can) 6-4, 6-2; R Harmon (US) bt R Knapp (US) 4-6, 6-1, 6-4; J Canter (US) bt G Mueller (SA) 6-4, 6-1; S Ercoli (It) bt R Brown (US) 6-2, 6-2; E Adams (US) bt *G Rivas (Arg)* 7-5, 7-6; F Gonzalez bt J Davis (US) 4-6, 6-3, 6-3.
MIAMI BEACH, Florida: USTA Women's tournament: V Nelson (US) bt A Brown (GB), 6-1, 6-3; P Smith (US) bt M Schillig (US) 6-2, 6-0; B Bramblett (US) bt A Villagran (Arg) 6-3, 6-4; B Gerken (US) bt A Holton (US) 6-2, 6-3; P Medrano (Bra) bt M Brown (US) 6-1, 6-1.
BARI, Italy: A Maurer (WG) bt F Junye (Arg) 6-1, 6-2; *E Sanchez (Sp) bt J Brown (US)* 6-2, 4-6, 6-1; J Avendano (Sp) bt T Wilkinson (US) 6-3, 6-3; P Rebolledo (Chile) bt F Luna (Sp) 6-3, 6-4.

HOCKEY
CLUB MATCH: Bank of England 5, Stock Exchange 4.
PARIS: Paris XI 0, Kenya 1.

RUGBY UNION
HERTFORD RFC FLOODLIT SEVENS: Final: Old Gaytonians 19, Cheshunt 16 (after extra time).

FOOTBALL
OLYMPIC QUALIFYING MATCH: Group C: Yugoslavia 1, Netherlands 0.
LIBERTADORES CUP: Sporting Cristal 2, *Portuguesa (Venezuela)* 1.
BOLOGNA: Juventus 0, Toronto Blizzards 0.
REPRESENTATIVE MATCH: Royal Navy 0, Amateur Football Alliance 4.
BELGRADE: European Under-18 championship: Semi-final round second leg: Yugoslavia 2, Greece 2.
FOOTBALL COMBINATION: Bristol Rovers 3, Millwall 0.

BASKETBALL
National Association: New Jersey Nets 112, *Indiana Pacers* 111; Atlanta Hawks 99, *Washington Bullets* 92; *Kansas City Kings* 127, San Diego Clippers 116.

SWIMMING

Disappointment as Miss Willmott fails to qualify

Jackie Willmott's disappointing season continued in the Arena national short course swimming championships at Darlington yesterday. The 19-year-old Southend international, plagued by injuries and other problems, failed to qualify for last night's 400 metres freestyle *final* – the event she won at last year's championship.

Fastest qualifier was Sarah Hardcastle, her clubmate, whose *time of 4min 10.01sec was a new* British junior record.

QUALIFIERS FOR FINALS: Women's 400 metres freestyle, 1, S Hardcastle 4 min 10.01 sec *(new British junior record)*; J Croft 4:12.69, A Cripps 4:14.04, L Taylor 4:20.58, K Mellor 4:20.83, K Read 4:21.24, S Karswell 4:22.62, J Archer 4:23.14. Men's 200 metres butterfly: S Poulter 2 min 03.56 sec, N Hodgson 2:04.448, I *Collins* 2:05.07, *P Howe* 2:07.15, *G Binfield* 2:07.26, K Muddiman 2:07.29, I Rickyard 2:07.67, P Gwilt 2:08.00. Women's 200m Breast stroke: M Dorber 2 min 34.40 sec, J Seymour 2:36.64, G Stanley 2:36.93, S Brownsdon 2:37.20, N Herbert 2:38.13, S Bowman 2:38.55, C Tucker 2:39.03, J Hill 2:39.11. Men's 200 metres Backstroke: K Boyd 2 min 06.22 sec, N Harper 2:08.48, S *Harrison* 2:08.72, R Brew 2:09.13, G Binfield 2:09.16, M Fenner 2:09.94, I Collins 2:09.95, S Willmott 2:10.09. Women's 100 metres Butterfly: A Osgerby 1 min 2.48 sec, S Purvis 1:3.06, C Cooper 1:3.14, M Wheeler 1:3.85, F Ross 1:4.23, L Criddle 1:4.26, *H Bewley 1:4.95*, C Jackson 1:5.73.

TODAY'S FIXTURES

7.30 unless stated

FOOTBALL
Third division
Southend United v Preston NE
Fourth division
Stockport County v Mansfield Town
FA YOUTH CUP: *Semi-final, second leg*: Barnsley v Everton.

RUGBY UNION
CLUB MATCHES: Cardiff v Bradford (7.15); Newbridge v Ebbw Vale (7.0).

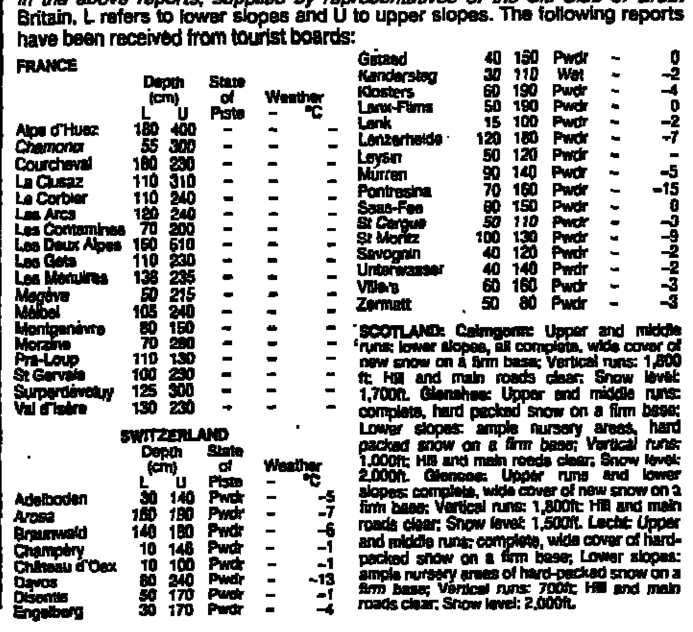
RUGBY LEAGUE
FIRST DIVISION: St Helens v Leith.
SECOND DIVISION: Cardiff City v Rochdale Hornets (7.45).

OTHER SPORTS
RACKETS: British Open singles (Queen's Club, 4.30).
TENNIS: Western Counties tournament (Horfield, Bristol).

SNOW REPORTS

	Depth (cm) L	Depth (cm) U	Conditions Piste	Conditions Off Piste	Runs to resort	Weather (5 pm) –	°C
Andermatt	120	290	Good	Powder	Fair	Cloud	5
Excellent snow on north slopes							
Arosa	160	190	Good	Powder	Good	Snow	-1
Powder on good base							
Courmayeur	120	350	Good	Powder	Good	Snow	0
Excellent snow everywhere							
Grindelwald	20	120	Fair	Heavy	Fair	Cloud	0
A few worn patches							
Isola 2000	180	220	Good	Varied	Good	Cloud	-2
Powder on hard base							
St Anton	50	450	Good	Varied	Fair	Cloud	-5
Good skiing on upper slopes							
Soldeu	100	130	Good	Varied	Good	Snow	0
Best skiing on upper runs							
Tignes	170	310	Good	Powder	Good	Snow	2
Bad light affecting skiing							

In the above reports, supplied by representatives of the Ski Club of Great Britain, L refers to lower slopes and U to upper slopes. The following reports have been received from tourist boards:



FRANCE

	Depth (cm) L	Depth (cm) U	State of Piste	Weather –	°C
Alpe d'Huez	180	400	–	–	–
Chamonix	55	300	–	–	–
Courchevel	180	230	–	–	–
La Clusaz	110	310	–	–	–
La Corbier	110	240	–	–	–
Les Arcs	120	240	–	–	–
Les Contamines	70	200	–	–	–
Les Deux Alpes	190	510	–	–	–
Les Gets	110	230	–	–	–
Les Menuires	138	235	–	–	–
Megève	50	215	–	–	–
Méribel	105	240	–	–	–
Montgenèvre	80	150	–	–	–
Morzine	70	280	–	–	–
Pra-Loup	110	130	–	–	–
St Gervais	100	230	–	–	–
Superdévoluy	125	300	–	–	–
Val d'Isère	130	230	–	–	–

SWITZERLAND

	Depth (cm) L	Depth (cm) U	State of Piste	Weather –	°C
Adelboden	30	140	Pwdr	–	–5
Arosa	180	180	Pwdr	–	–7
Braunwald	140	180	Pwdr	–	–6
Champéry	10	146	Pwdr	–	–1
Château d'Oex	10	100	Pwdr	–	–1
Davos	80	240	Pwdr	–	–13
Disentis	50	170	Pwdr	–	–1
Engelberg	30	170	Pwdr	–	–4
Gstaad	40	150	Pwdr	–	0
Kandersteg	30	110	Wet	–	–2
Klosters	60	190	Pwdr	–	–4
Lenk-Flims	50	190	Pwdr	–	0
Lenk	15	100	Pwdr	–	–2
Lenzerheide	120	180	Pwdr	–	–7
Leysin	50	120	Pwdr	–	–
Murren	90	140	Pwdr	–	–5
Pontresina	70	160	Pwdr	–	–15
Saas-Fee	60	150	Pwdr	–	0
St Cergue	*50*	*110*	*Pwdr*	–	–3
St Moritz	100	130	Pwdr	–	–9
Savognin	40	120	Pwdr	–	–2
Unterwasser	40	140	Pwdr	–	–2
Villars	60	160	Pwdr	–	–3
Zermatt	50	80	Pwdr	–	–3

SCOTLAND: Cairngorm: Upper and middle runs: lower slopes, all complete, wide cover of new snow on a firm base; Vertical runs: 1,800 ft; Hill and main roads clear; Snow level: 1,700ft. Glenshee: Upper and middle runs: complete, hard packed snow on a firm base; Lower slopes: ample nursery areas, hard packed snow on a firm base; *Vertical runs*: 1,000ft; Hill and main roads clear; Snow level: 2,000ft. Glencoe: Upper runs and lower slopes: complete, wide cover of new snow on a firm base; Vertical runs: 1,800ft; Hill and main roads clear; Snow level: 1,500ft. Lecht: Upper and middle runs: complete, wide cover of hard-packed snow on a firm base; Lower slopes: ample nursery areas of hard-packed snow on a firm base; *Vertical runs*: 700ft; Hill and main roads clear; Snow level: 2,000ft.

RACING

Senarius can confirm Folkestone promise

By Mandarin (Michael Phillips)

For the most part, today's racing at Kempton Park will be not unlike a group of marksmen firing sighters because at this early stage of the Flat racing season, traners are inevitably a little in the dark about not only their horses, but others, after the winter's break. When looking for the best bet of the day, therefore, it seems sensible to plump for one who has hit the target already, and so gor Senarius (nap) to win the Lancaster Carpets Stakes.

Guy Harwood's American-bred colt is fit and fresh after winning his only race at Folkestone at the beginning of last week. What is more, the word from Pulborough is that he is considered to be a cut above the sort of horse that one might normally expect to find running on the East Kent course.

Senarius won very comfortably that day and with that encouraging result behind him looks poised to give 6lb to Johnny Brown, Jetty Can, and Trapeze Artist, who look the pick of his opponents.

Kiev, another horse with good form this spring, albeit rather distant form at Cagnes-sur-Mer, can also take advantage of his peak condition by winning the Pamianthe Handicap Stakes.

Peter Martin, another member of Paul Kelleway's in-form stable, is expected to run well in the Laburnham Stakes, especially after that encouraging performance at Doncaster where he ran on too strongly in the closing stages for Bold Indian and Cataldi. But here I prefer Corinth from Ian Balding's powerful stable.

By that much missed stallion, Troy, who died last May, Corinth created a good impression last autumn, winning successive races at York and Newbury. Talking to Balding at Ascot on Wednesday, he gave an insight to how highly he regards Corinth when he said that if Corinth comes through today's test with flying colours, he will then be sent to France for one of the long-established classic trials at Longchamp.

William Hastings-Bass, back training in Newmarket after a spell in Australia, can get off the mark with Penllyne Trooper in the Syringa Handicap.

Bincleaves, who finished fourth behind Schula at Folkestone, should be worth following for the Withernsea Handicap at Beverley where Coincidental looks a good bet to win the Filey Maiden Auction Stakes following that good run at Doncaster.



Vincent O'Brien's Salmon Leap, who reappears in tomorrow's Camas Park Stud Stakes at Phoenix Park before going for the Prix Ganay at Longchamp on April 29.

Polly's Ark to prove able deputy

From Desmond Stoneham French Racing Correspondent, Paris

Francois Boutin has decided against running his English 2,000 Guineas hope Procida in this afternoon's seven furlong Prix Djebel at Maisons-Laffitte. The colt will instead go for the Prix Montenica a week later.

The Boutin stable will be represented in the Djebel by Polly's Ark who took last autumn's Prix Thomas Bryon. This son of Arctic Tern is my selection for the English classic trial and the danger is sure to be Diamada who won the group three Prix Eclipse as a two-year-old.

The Prix Imprudence is more open, with six of the eight runners still engaged in the 1,000 Guineas at Newmarket. The choice here is the Aga Khan's Masalika, who beat Superlative in last July's Prix Robert Papin and was then third to Siberian Express in the Prix Morny and second to Almeira in the Prix Marcel Boussac. Likely dangers are Premier Win, who has the advantage of a recent race, and L'Orangerie, who is trained by Criquette Head for Robert Sangster and won two of her three races last season.

At yesterday's Evry meeting Yves Saint-Martin partnered Naishakar to a comfortable victory over the outsider Dalby Jaguar in the Prix de Ris-Orangis. Third past the post was the filly Little Meadow, while the best of the visitors was Kirchner who took sixth position having not stayed the mile on the soft ground.

The Aga Khan will now rest Naishakar who has had races in the past six days. Albert Klimscha will be aiming Dalby Jaguar for the Grosser Prix Dusseldorf on April 28. The Irish filly Girl in Blue, who won last Saturday's Irish Lincoln, and El Gitano finished well in arrears.

GOING: soft. PRIX DE RIS-ORANGIS (Group 3) [illegible]

Soviet challenge

Husei Kasaev, champion jump jockey of the Soviet Union, arrives in Britain today to prepare for the first ever world championship for National hunt jockeys. Kasaev, aged 24, is one of 12 international riders due to take part in the competition at Cheltenham next Thursday.

Kasaev will be accompanied by two other Soviet jockeys who are keen to study racing in Britain. Early next week the trio go on a tour of Newmarket where they are scheduled to ride work for Harry Thomson Jones. They then set up base with David Nicholson in Gloucestershire.

The other jockeys taking part are: John Francome (Britain): Morten Reinert (Norway): Stephen Jenkins (New Zealand): Nick Harnett (Australia): Shinobu Hoshino (Japan): Ricky Hendriks (USA): Philippe Caus (Belgium): Michel Chirol (France): Frank Berry (Ireland): Giannantonio Colleo (Italy) and Andreas Wohler (West Germany). The championship is staged over four races

Tawny Myth's 14th in a row

Tawny Myth extended his winning run in point-to-points and hunter chases to 14 when taking the Pat Ruthven and Guy Nixon Memorial Hunter Chase at Wincanton yesterday. The Dorchester-trained gelding started 2-1 on but did not have matters all his own way. Romulex, who tried to make all the running under Alison Dare, never stopped galloping, and Tawny Myth had a long struggle over the last five fences before finally gaining the upper hand by a length.

Roy Cake, the winning owner-trainer, said: "He had a race today all right, but was trying to give the runner-up 10lb. This was not the hardest of his wins. That was when he beat Winterland in the open at the Portman point-to-point last season".

Tawny Myth will now go for a repeat win in the Portman open, then tackles the Audi grand prix final at Sandown on April 27.

Stuart Pattemore saddled two runners in the first division of the Bluebell Novices Hurdle and dominated the race. Plaza Toro set a scorching pace tracked by his stable companion, Shamlan, and when the leader ran out of steam at the last went on for a two-length victory over the 33-1 outsider, Gary Shaw. "That's just how we planned it," the winning Somerton trainer said. His only complaint was that Shamlan was returned at 10-1 after he had backed the gelding a 7-1.

John Francome's mount, Strike Lucky, started 5-2 favourite and his backers were feeling quite pleased with themselves when the colt moved smoothly round the field, picking them off with apparent ease turning out of the back straight. But with two to jump, the favourite was suddenly making no progress, and Francome accepting the situation, pulled him up.

Francome decided not to ride again, giving up his three remaining booked rides. Fred Winter's assistant, Oliver Sherwood, said: "An old neck injury is playing Francome up a bit. It started this morning, but that had nothing to do with Strike Lucky pulling up. The horse just went out like a light, and may not be quite right."

At Ludlow the East Ilsley trainer, Kim Bailey, who had the biggest triumph of his career when he won with Just For The Crack at Ascot on Wednesday, saddled Bright Oassis to score for the second time in less than a week by capturing the Old Wolverhampton Book Club Novices Chase.

EQUESTRIANISM

Red Riot likes the turf at Tidworth

By Jenny MacArthur

Richard Walker and the eight year-old Red Riot gained their third victory this season in as many events when they won their intermediate section at yesterday's Army Horse Trials at Tidworth, Hampshire, sponsored by MacConnel-Mason Thornycroft.

Red Riot's success is a tribute to Walker's skill at producing a horse. He waits until he is certain a horse is ready before putting it into a competition. He and Red Riot revelled in the excellent going over Tidworth's fine old turf. "On ground like this you feel like Mohammed Ali," Walker said afterwards.

The win was some consolation for the withdrawal of his open intermediate entry Globetrotter who did not trot out quite level that morning. The horse was shod the day before and may have been pinched by a shoe. Walker's other intermediate horse, Lutin, also missed the competition because of a grazed knee.

Nicholas Brake, the winner of section one on Mrs V. Blakesley's Clio III was lucky to be competing at all. He had a bad fall from Cassette II earlier in the day at the sunken road. When it was suggested that he went to hospital, Brake, who farmed near Henley, said he could not go because he intended to win the next class. Clio III, a nine year-old grey mare, proved as game as her rider and they completed a clear round incurring just one time fault.

Colin Wares continued his successful season with Mrs D Murdoch's Willy B when he won the open intermediate section.

In the open class Wares finished two marks ahead of Master Chester, ridden by 17 year-old Katy Parker, whose mother Bridget was a member of the team which won the Gold medal in the 1972 Munich Olympics.

RESULTS: Intermediate section one: 1, Clio III (N Brake), 32; 2, St Oliver Plunket (C Wares), 33; 3, Timaru (R Meade), 37. Section two: 1, Masonbrook (J. Boyd), 42; 2, Bonetti (J Mersh-Smith), 32; 3, Proven Best (S Martindale), 32. Section three: 1, Miss Emmalu (L Murray), 39; 2, Gameful Cloud (A Franklin), 43; 3, Flying Midas (H Macdonald), 45. Section four: 1, Cour de Lion III (M Orchard), 34; 2, The Bard (C. Moort), 42; 3, Diary Girl (H Clemerson), 42. Open intermediate section: 1, Willy B (C. Wares), 35; 2, Master Chester (K. Parker), 37; 3, Final Edition (S. Blane), 37.

OLYMPIC GAMES

African plan to present a united front

Los Angeles (Reuter) - Members of national Olympic committees from Africa will meet here before the summer Games in July to discuss "Olympic solidarity issues."

An attaché working in conjunction with the Olympic organizing committee, said he expected one of the issues to be discussed would be the decision of the Rugby Football Unions to send a team to South Africa next month.

Peter Ueberroth, president of the Los Angeles committee, and Juan Antonio Samaranch, president of the international Olympic committee, discussed the proposed conference at a meeting in San Juan, Puerto Rico.

"This is one of the few times the association has called a full membership meeting outside Africa," Mr Ueberroth said on his return. He said the meeting was highly productive and a wide variety of issues concerning this year's Games were discussed.

● Princess Anne is coming to Los Angeles for a two-day visit in July, it was announced here yesterday (Robin Gregg writes). Although it has not been officially confirmed it would be surprising if her visit did not coincide with some of the show jumping events at the Olympics.

MOTOR RACING

Record for Rosberg in practice

From Ray Kennedy Kyalami

Keke Rosberg, o Finland, recorded the fastest time ever at the Kyalami circuit near Johannesburg yesterday in the first official pracitce for the South Affican Grand Prix towomow, the second race in this year's world championship.

After driving to new turdo-bowered Williams Honda at an average speed of 140.92 mph he said: "It wasn't the prerfect lap, there never is one. But I did'nt have any trouble with the traffic. Perhaps that's because of my reputation – everone got out of the way."

Apart from Rosberg's effort it was a satisfying day's work for both British cars ad drivers. Piquet shadowed Rosberg by only 0.15sec and Nigel Mansell in the JPS Lotus Renault was imprssive enough to claim fourth place after Patrick Tambay (Renault Elf).

Derek Warwick (Renault Elf) was a little unlucky to finish sixth fastest. During his first outing on qualifying times he was opening up nicely with a fairly clear circuit ahead when one of the dials in the instrument panel fell into his lap and he had almost to swerve off the brack in order to ditch it overboard.

PRACTICE TIMES: 1, N Rosberg (Fin), Williams, 1min 05.127sec (140.926mph); 2, N Piquet (Br), Brabham, 1:05.280; 3, P Tambay (Fr), Renault, 1:05.588; 4, N Mansell (GB), Lotus, 1:05.792; 5, T. Fabi (It), Brabham, 1:05.923; 6, D Warwick (GB), Renault, 1:06.056; 7, N Lauda (Austria), McLaren, 1:06.228; 8, E de Angelis (It), Lotus, 1:06.305; 9, A. Prost (Fr), McLaren, 1:06.578; 10, M Winkelhock (WG), ATS, 1:06.974; 11, J Laffite (Fr), Williams, 1:07.142; 12, M Alboreto (It), Ferrari, 1:07.404; 13, R Arnoux (Fr), Ferrari, 1:07.514; 14, A Senna (Br), Toleman, 1:07.657; 15, E Cheever (US), Alfa Romeo, 1:07.704; 16, R Patrese (It), Alfa Romeo, 1:08.399; 17, A de Cesaris (It), Ligier, 1:09.132; 18, J Cecotto (Ven), Toleman, 1:09.892; 19, F Hesnault (Fr), Ligier, 1:09.909; 20, M Baldi (It), Spirit, 1:10.450; 21, P Ghinzani (It), Osella, 1:10.829; 22, M Surer (Switz), Arrows, 1:12.227; 23, M Brundle (GB), Tyrrell, 1:12.233; 24, S Bellof (WG), Tyrrell, 1:12.322; 25, T Boutsen (Bel), Arrows, 1:12.326.



Rosberg; not perfect

YACHTING

High technology giant reaches the final stages

By John Nicholls

Yesterday was not an important stage in the prepacation of Colt Cars GB, a Maxi yacht being built to compete in next year's Whitbread Round the World Race. In a delicate operation at Mitsubishi Maritime in Plymouth, she was turned right side up for the final stages of her construction. The deck will shortly be attached and she is due to be launched in October.

The huge yacht, almost 80 feet long, will be one of the largest entries in the race and is already among the favourites to finish first. Her chief rival of the 13 entries confirmed so far is Lion New Zealand, to be sailed by Peter Blake. Both boats were designed by Ron Holland and both represent the current thinking in high-technology, computer-aided construction.

Colt Cars GB will be skippered by Jeff Houlgrave who, before the launch date, will have raced his other charge, the trimaran Colt Cars GB in the Observer Singlge-Handed Transatlantic Race. He is now selecting his crew for the Whitbread race

BOARDSAILING

Sponsor giving sport a tonic

British Windsurfing is to receive much-welcomed support from Captain Morgan Spiced Rum who will be sponsoring 10 events to the tune of £100,000, with the option to provide a similar amount for the next two years (John Nicholls writes).

The principal event on their calendar is the European championship for division II boards at Weymouth from September 5 to 15. The national championships at the Mumbles near Swansea, will also be supported, together with a series of open events at different venues

● CARNAC, Western France: Lack of wind caused the postponement of yesterday's sixth race in the European Windglider championships here (AFP reports).

KEMPTON PARK

GOING: good

Tote: Double 3.30, 4.30. Treble 3.0, 4.0, 5.0.

2.30 AMARYLLIS HANDICAP STAKES (£4,188: 1m 4f) (21 runners)

101	013140-	FORWARD (D) (N Hunt) J Dunlop 5-10-0	W Carson 21
102	010204-	CURRENT RAISER (D) (Lord Matthews) C Brittain 4-9-8	T Ives 5
103	00100-0	HUNGARIAN PRINCE (D Hobdell Ltd) G Thorner 4-9-1	P Robinson 10
105	12330-0	CLEARLY BUST (D) (K Spindler) D Morley 4-8-10	S Cauthen 1
106	20200-0	DANCING ADMIRAL (W Gredley) C Brittain 4-8-10	Pat Eddery 6
107	40031-0	WONDERFUL SURPRISE (D) (E Eldin) E Eldin 7-8-10	E Guest 5 18
108	420013-	HOSSAM (Prince Faisal) P Walwyn 4-8-10	N Howe 11
109	1/2000-	WOODCOTE BELLE (S Oon) R Smyth 4-8-8	G Starkey 13
110	/12400-	EQUANAID (V Kilkenny) C Nelson 4-8-6	J Mercer 12
111	120/00-	MAJESTIC STAR (Mrs P Blackburn) Miss B Morris 7-8-3	- 7
112	/00240-	TURKOMAN (CD) (M Pote) D Sasse 5-8-3	G Baxter 2
113	404000-	MOON JESTER (T Marshall) M Usher 4-8-2	D McKay 14
114	132341-	BARRA HEAD (A Struthers) J Dunlop 4-8-2	B Rouse 20
116	00013-	MAN IN GREY (D) (F Feeney) G Pritchard-Gordon 4-7-13	B Crossley 4
118	403004-	PRINCESS HENHAM (CD) (J Smith) N Callaghan 4-7-7	- 17
119	020230-	GLENHAWK (D) (Express Newspapers) M Ryan 8-7-7	M Fozzard 7 9
120	204103-	KUROSAWA (D) (E St George) R Sheather 4-7-7	R Street 19
121	000000-	RIBERETTO (D) (D McIntyre) A Hide 6-7-7	S Dawson 5 8
122	30020-2	SHUTLAR'S FLING (R Shutlar) M Haynes 4-7-7	I Jenkinson 3
123	212240-	WIDD (D) (T Mills) D Mills 7-7-7	R Still 15
124	00/000-	SOME SPARE (Mrs J Hickman) M Smyly 5-7-7	A Mackay 16

1983: No corresponding meeting.

4 Forward, 5 Current Raiser, 11-2 Dancing Admiral, 6 Hossam, 8 Barra Head, 9 Moon Jester, 10 Shutlar's Fling, 12 Man in Grey, Clearly Bust, 14 Equanaid, 16 others.

FORM: FORWARD (9-10) beaten over 8l when 7th to Asir (8-7) at Doncaster (1m 4f, £12,652, good, Nov 5), with RIBERETTO (7-7) 8th, and CLEARLY BUST (7-0) out of first nine. CURRENT RAISER (9-0) beaten over 11l when 7th to High Hawk (9-0) at Doncaster (2m, £19,256, good to firm, Spet 7). DANCING ADMIRAL (8-13) beaten over 15l when 8th to Regal Steel (8-3) at Doncaster (1m 4f, £3,381, good to firm, Mar 22), when CLEARLY BUST (8-13) 7th, HUNGARIAN PRINCE (9-4) 10th, WONDERFUL SURPRISE (8-8) further behind. HOSSAM (8-13) just over 1l 3rd to General Concorde (9-1) at Newbury (1m 5f, £8,091, firm, July 16), with MOON JESTER (9-1) further 1½l away 4th. EQUANAID, well behind Newmarket Oct, earlier (8-7) 11th to Onslow (9-7) at Ayr (1m 2f, £4,298, soft, Sept 16), when MOON JESTER (8-2) beaten 13½l in 8th. PRINCESS HENHAM (8-11) over 3½l 4th to BARRA HEAD (8-9) at Doncaster (1m 2f, £2,100, good, Nov 5) GLENHAWK (9-1) nearly 12l 6th to Tue Heritage (8-5) at Yarmouth (1m 3f, £2,062, good, Sept 14).
Selection: DANCING ADMIRAL.

Kempton selections

By Mandarin

2.30 Princess Henham. 3.0 Shoot Pool. 3.30 Corinth. 4.0 SENARIUS (nap). 4.30 Kiev. 5.0 Penllyne Trooper.

By Our Newmarket Correspondent

2.30 Wonderful Surprise. 3.30 On Oath. 4.0 Jerry Can. 4.30 Caro's Gift. 5.0 Velocidad.

By Michael Seely

3.30 Sam M. 4.30 KIEV (nap).

3.0 POLYANTHUS MAIDEN STAKES (2-y-o: £1,979: 5f) (14)

201		AL-AMARADY (H Al-Maktoum) C Benstead 9-0	B Rouse 8
202		ALBANY LAD (Mrs L Davies) R Hannon 9-0	R Wernham 9
206		INDIANA PENCIL (T Thom) J Bridger 9-0	W Carson 14
207		JOHNNIE NAP (Mrs G Thornberry) G Lewis 9-0	P Waldron 13
208		JOLLY BUSINESS (Mrs V Lewis) G Lewis 9-0	G Ramshaw 1
209	0	MATCHSTICK MAN (B Boardman) H Beasley 9-0	R Curant 1
210		MONTANIC (T Mountain) W Wightman 9-0	G Baxter 6
211		OLD BAILEY (Mrs C Thompson) G Harwood 9-0	G Starkey 4
212	0	PIRBRIGHT (Mrs E Jackman) A Davison 9-0	D Mckay 3
214		SHOOT POOL (P Nelson) G Huter 9-0	Pat Eddery 10
215	8	TOKANO (G Steinberg) K Ivory 9-0	P Robinson 7
217	0	YOMPING HOME (Mrs W McAlpine) R Smyth 9-0	M Hills 5
218	0	CRONK'S IMAGE (Cronk Garages) B Swift 8-11	J Reid 12
220		SHELLEY MAIRE (Mrs B Taylor) M McCourt 8-11	S Cauthen 2

2 Old Bailey, 5-2 Shoot Pool, 5 Albany Lad, 6 Johnnie Nap, 7 Cronk's Image, 8 Yomping Home, 14 others.

3.30 LABURNAM STAKES (3-y-o: £4,461: 1m) (19)

302	411-	CORINTH (C) (G Strawbridge) I Balding 9-1	S Cauthen 10
303	10-	DONZEL (K Abdulla) J Tree 9-1	Pat Eddery 3
304	312-	ON OATH (Marquese de Moratalla) B Hobbs 9-1	G Baxter 13
306	00-	BARNBROOK AGAIN (H Bambrook) S Mellor 8-10	M Wigham 6
308	4-	CAMDEN LOCK (Esal Commodities) G Lewis 8-10	P Waldron 5
309	01-	CAUTIOUS STYLE (F Sahaid) P Cole 8-10	J Reid 14
310	22-	CHAUMIERE (R Swift) R J Williams 8-10	T Ives 4
312	0-0	FULL OF SPEED (P Crate) H O'Neill 8-10	NON-RUNNER 11
314	00-	LINER (Mrs E Lucey) P Butler 8-10	A Murray 2
317	002-1	PETER MARTIN (D) (M Hurley) P Kelleway 8-10	P Cook 1
319		RETOSKY (Lord Matthews) Mrs J Reavey 8-10	T Rogers 17
320	1-	ROYAL HALO (Mrs D Campbell) G Harwood 8-10	G Starkey 12
321	020-	RUNAWAY LOVER (J Horgan) R Hannon 8-10	A McGlone 15
322	241-	SAM M (D) (Sheikh Mohammed) J Dunlop 8-10	W Carson 16
323	0-	SHARP AND READY (Elisha Holdings) A Ingham 8-10	G Ramshaw 19
324	00-	STORM RULER (S Liem) E Eldin 8-10	A McKay 8
325	001-	TEST OF TIME (A Chapman) H Candy 8-10	J Matthias 18
326	1-	TRIAL BY ERROR (S Fradkoff) L Cumani 8-10	D McHargue 7
327	010-	KATIES (J Fisher) M Ryan 8-7	P Robinson 9

3 Cronith, 100-30 Royal Halo, 4 Donzel, 6 On Oath, 7 Sam M, 9 Chaumiere, 10 Peter Martin, Trail By Error, 16 others.

FORM: CORINTH: (9-3) beat Little Look (8-11) 1½l at Newbury (6f, £4,037, good, Oct 22) DONZEL, behind final start, earlier (8-11) beat Ministerial (8-11) 7-l at Ascot (7f, £5,573, good to firm, Sep 23). ON OATH (9-4) 3l 3rd, promoted to 2nd, behind disqualified Bluff House (9-4) at Goodwood (6f, £2,443, good, Aug 26). CHAUMIERE (8-11) beaten 1½l by Condrilles (8-11) in Newmarket listed race (7f, £9,351, good, Oct 15). PETER MARTIN (9-0) scored head victory over Bold Indian (9-0) at Doncaster (8f, £822, good to firm, Mar 22). ROYAL HALO (9-0) beat Nadia Nerina (8-11) easy 6l on Lingfield Debut (7f, £2,331, good, Oct 31). SAM M (9-0) 1l winner from Starwind (9-0) at Leicester (6f, £828, good to firm, Nov 1). TRIAL BY ERROR (9-0) beat Tocave Botta (9-0) 1½l in Yarmouth maiden (7f, £1,035, good, Sep 15).
Selection: ROYAL HALO.

4.0 LANCASTER CARPETS STAKES (3-y-o: £2,371: 1m 3f 30yd) (20)

401	1	SENARIUS (S Niarchos) G Harwood 9-8	G Starkey 16
402	0440-	ACERCATE (Mrs A Muinos) M E Francis 8-11	Paul Eddery 18
404	00-	BATTLE DRUM (L Holliday) H Candy 8-11	J Matthias 11
406		BRAVE MONARCH (N Agran) G Harwood 8-11	A Clark 4
407	0000-	CAMPUS BOY (C Spence) D Morley 8-11	S Cauthen 17
410		FREE BUCK (R Chuter) B Swift 8-11	P Robinson 5
412	0-	HIERONYMOUS (W Gredley) C Brittain 8-11	Pat Eddery 6
413	00-	IDLE MATINEE (B McNall) J Dunlop 8-11	W Carson 14
414	322-	JERRY CAN (Sheikh Mohammed) Thomson Jones 8-11	A Murray 8
415	00-	JOHNNY CROWN (Studcrown Ltd) L Cumani 8-11	D McHargue 12
416	00-	LOTTESVILLE (T Richards) C Austin 8-11	T Rogers 13
418	0000-	NOUREEZ (H. H. Aga Khan) R Houghton 8-11	R Fox 9
422	0-0	PULSATE (Mrs R Baker) C Benstead 8-11	B Rouse 15
423	0-	RED MUSTANG (S Peltz) H Beasley 8-11	J Mercer 1
426	00-3	SAINT ACTON (E Weinstein) A Jarvis 8-11	S Cauthen 3
428	0	SHANGOSEER (J Van Geest) R J Williams 8-11	T Ives 7
429	00000-	SHARED JOKE (Miss S Hayes-Sadler) M Bolton 8-11	N Howe 19
431	00-	TARAS CHARIOT (T Tobin) S Matthews 8-11	B Jago 2
432	00-0000	TO ASTERI (Miss L Demetriou) P Mitchell 8-11	A McGlone 3 20
433	03-	TRAPEZE ARTIST (Introgroup Holdings) N Vigors 8-11	J Reid 10

11-4 Senarius, 100-30 Johnny Crown, 4 Jerry Can, 6 Acercate, 8 Trapeze Artist, 10 Battle Drum, 12 Brave Monarch, 16 others.

FORM: Senarius (9-0) 2l, winner from Mr Key (9-0) at Folkestone (1m 2f, £547, soft, Mar 26), with Pulsate (9-0) 20½ l, further away 5th. Acercate, unplaced Newbury Oct, previously (8-11) just over 4l, 4th to Ministerial (9-3) at Ascot (7f, £5826, good to firm, Oct 8). Campus Boy (9-0) beaten over 4l when 9th to Tug Top (8-11) at Doncaster (6f, £1,035, good to firm, Nov 4). Jerry Can (9-0) 1½ l, 2nd to All Fair (9-0) at Haydock (6f, £1,998, soft, Oct 12). Johnny Crown (8-11) beaten under 6l when 8th to Condrillac (8-11) at Newmarket (7f, £2,608, good, Oct 15). Trapeze Artist (9-0) 3½ l, 3rd to Knight's Banner (9-0) at Leicester)7f, £1,035, good, Oct 18).
Selection: Johnny Crown.

4.30 PAMIANTHE HANDICAP STAKES (3-y-o: £2,670: 1m 2f) (17)

501	140400-	HIT THE HEIGHTS (Esal Commodities) G Lewis 9-7	P Waldron 12
502	1220-	RUSE (K Abdulla) R Smyth 9-2	G Starkey 4
504	00110-	MY TOOTSIE (D Fisher) M Ryan 9-0	P Robinson 3
505	2120-	FOR SURE FOR SURE (S Doyle) C Nelson 9-0	J Mercer 6
506	343400-	ACTION TIME (Steve Davis Ltd) P Makin 9-0	S Cauthen 13
508	0213-	TAQDIR (Marshall Racing Ltd) R Armstrong 8-12	G Sexton 16
509	00431-	CARO'S GIFT (R Smith) G Pritchard-Gordon 8-12	B Taylor 2
510	0022-	DIAMONDS HIGH (M Vazanias) P Mitchell 8-10	A McGlone 3 15
511	031-	HIDDEN DESTINY (Sheikh Mohammed) J Dunlop 8-10	W Carson 17
512	03410-	TROUVERE (R Alkrallia) B Hanbury 8-10	G Baxter 1
513	0320-	GASTRONOMIC (C Marner) D Morley 8-7	J Reid 11
514	031-	RISK ALL (Lavinia Duchess of Norfolk) J Dunlop 8-6	B Rouse 10
516	00001-	STORMCHASER (A Whittlesea) H Beasley 8-4	R Curant 14
517	00041-	CAEDMON (D) (R Wright) C Brittain 8-3 (7 ex)	P Bradwell 3 5
518	4144-12	KIEV (G Kaye) P Kelleway 8-1	P Cook 7
520	00440-0	BOCODA LAD (E Hill) C Benstead 7-13	R Fox 9
522	000-3	GRUINASTORM (R Pol) N Callaghan 7-7	S Dawson 3 5

3 Keiv, 100-30 Caedmon, 5 Hidden Destiny, 13-2 Hit The Heights, 7 Caro's Gift, 8 Risk All, 10 Ruse, 12 My Tootsie, 16 others.

Form: Hit The Heights, not in first 6 last 2 starts (9-7) was 4½ l, 4th with Ruse (8-13) further 3½ l, back in 6th behind Owing Steven (8-1) at Newbury (7f, £2,499, good, Sep 16) My Tootsie (8-12) 8th to High Debate (8-11) Newmarket (10f, good to firm, Oct 29) with Action Time (8-11 and and For Sure for Sure (9-1) ahead of her, previously (8-6) was easy 6l winner from Calypsa (8-13) at Haydock (7f, £2,329, soft, Oct 13). For Sure For Sure (9-4) Earlier 2½ l 2nd with Taqdir (9-7) 1½ l, away in 3rd, to Trouvere (8-11) at Hamilton (8f, £811, soft, Oct 17). Caro's Gift (9-0) beat Briarean (9-0) 2½ l at Newcastle (8f, £1,597, good to firm, Oct 4). Risk All (8-11) 2l Lingfield winner from Honey (8-11) (8f, £1,976, good to soft Oct 14). Stormchaser (8-10) beat Record Supreme (8-11) ½ l at Folkestone (6f, £727, firm, July 19). Caedmon (8-12) beat Belvoir Patrol (8-1) 5l at Ayr (1m, 2f, £1,928, soft, Mar 26).
Selection: Caro's Gift.

5.0 SYRINGA HANDICAP STAKES (£2,645: 6f) (17)

601	200204-	MILK HEART (D) (Elisha Holding) G Lewis 5-9-10	P Waldron 9
602	411000-	MATOU (D) (Mrs T Pick) G Pritchard-Gordon 4-9-10	W Carson 11
603	400300-	SYLVAN NAVARRO (B) (D) (Mrs R Johnson) P Mitchell 4-9-6	A McGlone 3 13
604	031002-	MASTER CAWSTON (D) (Swinton Holdings) M Hinchliffe 5-9-6	L Piggott 3
606	00000-0	PUSEY STREET (D) (M Wilkins) J Bosley 7-9-2	Pat Eddery 4
607	000004-	LITTLE STARCHY (J Fletcher) J O'Donoghue 6-9-2	R Fox 5
608	032400-	PENLLYNE TROOPER (Penllyne Haulage Ltd) W Hastings-Bass 4-9-0	T Ives 2
609	033210-	MANILOW (C Hughesdon) B Swift 7-8-13	A Murray 14
610	100000-	PORTOGON (D) (T Marshall) M Usher 6-8-12	D McKay 8
611	20000-1	SCHULA (J Greaves) H O'Neill 4-8-12 (7 ex)	NON-RUNNER 12
612	214020-	JAMESTON (D) (Mrs A Reid) R Armstrong 4-8-11	P Tulk 6
613	104000-	ROMAN RULER (D) (J Brown) W Wightman 5-8-10	B Rouse 10
614	03040-0	BARNET HEIR (CD) (S Crowe) B Swift 6-8-9	J Reid 7
615	0430-20	VELOCIDAD (F Ramadan) M Ryan 4-8-8 (7 ex)	P Robinson 15
620	20300-3	GENTLE STAR (B) (D) (Mrs K Ivory) K Ivory 5-7-7	Janice Waite 7 17
621	342200-	MATCH MASTER (J Stafford) H O'Neill 5-7-7	M Hills 16
622	310000-	SURFING ERA (D) (J Oakden) A Ingham 3-7-7	R Still 1

3 Master Cawston, 100-30 Velocidad, 5 Milk Heart, 13-2 Matou, 8 Manilow, 9 Portogon, 10 Barnet Heir, 12 Little Starchy, 15 others.

BEVERLEY

GOING: good

Draw: advantage: High numbers best

2.15 SCARBOROUGH SPA SELLING STAKES 2-y-o: £832:5f (12 runners)

1		LIGHT DAWN J Berry 9-0	K Darley 1
2	03	IVAN-JO (B) R Stubbs 8-11	D Nicholls 10
3		POKEY M W Easterby 8-11	K Hodgson 5
4		READY AND GAME D Thom 8-11	S Edwards 7 11
5	0	WENTHOM (B) T Fairhurst 8-11	R P Elliott 8
6	4	WINNING MARK (B) Denys Smith 8-11	K M Fry 7
7	4	BETHAN R Hollinshead 8-8	S Perks 6
8		DAME OF ARDOUR N Tinkler 8-8	L Charnock 3
9		INDUSTRIOUS MISS Hbt Jones 8-8	E Hide 2
12	2	MARK MELODY D Plant 8-8	B Coogan 9
13		TOWN END M W Easterby 8-8	M Hindley 7 12
14		WITHRHOLME M W Easterby 8-8	C Storey 4

1983: No corresponding meeting

11-4 Mark Melody, 7-2 Ivan-Jo, 4 Light Dawn, 5 Winning Mark

Beverley selection

By Mandarin

2.15 Winning Mark. 2.45 Bincleaves. 3.15. Tapping Wood. 3.45 Apple Wine. 4.15 Jackdaw. 4.45 Coincidental.

Michael Seely's selection. 3.15 Tapping Wood.

2.45 WITHERNSEA HANDICAP STAKES (1,730:5f) (13)

1	4400-	MEL'S CHOICE (CD) D Plant 6-9-10	B Coogan 13
3	102-0	LADY CARA (D) J Berry 4-9-9	M Berry 7 4
6	1033-	OVER THE RAINBOW (CD) J Winter 7-9-2	P Hamblett 7
7	0000-	JO-ANDREW (D) D Chapman 4-9-1	D Nicholls 9
8	000-0	SEVEN CLUBS (D) C Drew 4-9-1	S Keightley 1
9	0030-	SPACEMAKER BOY (D) G Fletcher 4-9-0	A Bond 2
10	0200-	LOCHTILLUM (CD) J Douglas-Home 5-9-0	I Johnson 12
11	134-8	ROMAN QUEST (D) P Rohan 5-9-0	E Hide 5
12	0800-	TOLLYMORE P Calver 5-8-11	M Beecroft 11
13	00-33	PARABEMS (B) (D) (BF) K Ivory 5-8-9	R Cochrane 6
17	440-0	S A POUNDSTRETCHER (D) J Spearing 5-8-5	J Bleasdale 3
18	100-4	BINCLEAVES [illegible]	[illegible]
19	000-9	H R MICRO (CD) [illegible]	[illegible]

4 Parabems, 5 Bincleaves, [illegible]

3.15 LECONFIELD MAIDEN STAKES (3-y-o: £1,412:1m) (15)

1	03-	BACHAGHA M H[illegible]	[illegible]
2	3900-	BERRY VILLE M [illegible]	[illegible]
4	0000-	BURBRIDGE KING [illegible]	[illegible]
6	3	CAROL'S MUSIC [illegible]	[illegible]
7	0003-	COURAGEOUS B[illegible]	[illegible]
9	30-	HODNET R Hoog[illegible]	[illegible]
10	000-	INCISIVE E Weym[illegible]	[illegible]
11		MUSIC WONDER [illegible]	[illegible]
12	3400	PLOUGHMAN'S [illegible]	[illegible]
14	00-	TAPPING WOOD [illegible]	[illegible]
16	000-	XMAS TREE P W[illegible]	[illegible]
18		HIGH SOCIETY J [illegible]	[illegible]
19	0602-	HONOUR'S IMP [illegible]	[illegible]
20		LITTLE NEWINGT[illegible]	[illegible]
21	000-0	RIBOBELLE R Th[illegible]	[illegible]

1-2 Tapping Wood, 6 Plo[illegible]

3.45 HORNSEA MERE HANDICAP STAKES (£1,461:1m 2f) (19)

1	430-0	RAPID LAD (CD) J Spearing 6-9-10	J Bleasdale 16
3	0110-	STRACOMER NURSE G Lockerbie 4-9-5	M Birch 14
4	0000-	FRENCH GENT T Barron 5-8-3	S Keightley 2
6	0000	BALLAGARROW GIRL R Hollinshead 4-8-11	S Perks 19
8	00-02	APPLE WINE (C) D Chapman 7-8-8	D Nicholls 3
9	2403-	MYSTIC MARGARET (D) A Hide 5-8-8	P Bloomfield 5 9
10	1300-	CHUMMY'S BOY N Callaghan 4-8-8	G Duffield 9
11	0300-	SEA REPPIN J Leigh 4-8-7	J Lowe 7
12	00-24	STATE TROOPER (D) R Stubbs 7-8-7	S Webster 17
15	001-0	K-BATTERY W Elsey 3-8-6	C Dwyer 4
19	1030-	SCREES Capt J Wilson 3-8-4	K Darley 10
20	1401-	LADY EVER-SO-SURE (B) (CD) J Etherington 6-8-2	M Wood 15

[illegible]

7-2 Stracomer Nurse, [illegible] Apple Wine, [illegible]

4.15 BRIDLINGTON BAY MAIDEN STAKES (£1,210:2m) (14)

[illegible]

4.45 FILEY MAIDEN AUCTION STAKES (2-y-o: £1,534:5f) (24)

[illegible]

KELSO

GOING: good to soft

2.15 SPROUSTON SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE (£580; 2m) (15 runners)

1	00u0	CAMBORNE HILL (C,D) C H Bell 8-11-10	J J O'Neill
2	3002	RABY C H Bell 5-11-4	P Tuck
5	0010	LINATEA (D) P Curtis 9-10-12	D Wilkinson
6	20ff	GUN (B) D Yeoman 7-10-8	-
7	00ur	LYNE MILL (B) D Swindlehurst 10-10-8	NON-RUNNER
8	0p00	HODAKA B Cambidge 7-10-5	Mr J Cambidge 4
9	p342	NOTIKI (D) J Twibell 9-10-5	S Charlton
11	0000	HALLO CHEEKY (D) W Storey 8-10-2	K Ryan 7
13	0000	THE BEGINNING (D) W Storey 6-10-0	K Jones
15	0p03	BARON DE HOLLAND (D) C Wardman 10-10-0	C J Wardman 7
16	004-3	PRINCE SOL T Jeffrey 5-10-0	C Pimlott
18	0000	ANVIL INN P Monteith 6-10-0	D Nolan
19	0p3/0	YEARS AHEAD W G Morris 8-10-0	W Morris 4
20	000-0	UNGUARDED Mrs C Weightman 6-10-0	B Storey 4
22	r000	WHITE PRINCE (B) F Walton 7-10-0	Mr J Walton

1983: Pot Party 5-10-0 J J O'Neill (8-1) R Woodhouse 15 ran.

3 Notiki, 7-2 Hodaka, 4 Raby, 6 Lyne Mill, 8 Linatea, 10 Prince Sol

Kelso selections

By Mandarin

2.15 Prince Sol. 2.45 Swift Messenger. 3.15 Corrielek. 3.45 Friars Peak. 4.15 For Good. 4.45 Wargame. 5.15 Monastier.

2.45 SPRINGWOOD NOVICES' CHASE (Div I: £816: 2m 6f) (13)

2	0013	INDIAN MAIZE LADY C Renwick 11-11-10	Mr T Reed 7
6	3oup	BARBERSTOWN CASTLE W Sample 11-11-0	Mr C Sample
7	f/ppp-	BEN VRACKIE A Thomson 12-11-0	-
9	100-p	BOBBY BROWN D Lamb 7-11-0	R Lamb
16	00-f0	HOT PRETENCE J S Wilson 7-11-0	J L Goulding
17	0000	HUMMELMOOR A Mactaggart 7-11-0	C Pimlott
18	p0pp	INSTANT FREEZE B McLean 7-11-0	G W Gray
25	f0/4	MR COGGY W A Stephenson 8-11-0	Mr P J Dun 7
26	0000	MUCKLERIDGE R Nixon 6-11-0	Mr C Storey 7
30	p244	STARMASE G Richards 8-11-0	D Coakley 4
33	200f	JOYFUL STAR J Dixon 7-10-9	B Storey 4
36	0-000	WESTWOOD BLAZE W Storey 6-10-9	E McIntyre
39	2322	SWIFT MESSENGR D Moorhead 5-10-0	N Doughty

1983: Don't Walk 7-11-10 E McIntyre (2-1 fav) W A Stephenson 10 ran.

9-4 Swift Messenger, 3 Starmase, 4 Mr Coggy, 7 Indian Maize

3.15 TENNENT QUAICH HANDICAP HURDLE (£1,906: 2m 4f) (20)

2	4100	NEWLIFE CONNECTION (D) W A Stephenson 5-11-12	G W Gray
3	2u20	CAMDEN (C,D) R McDonald 10-11-9	K Jones
4	30p0	BOARDMANS SPECIAL (D) C H Bell 10-11-7	P Tuck
5	22pp	NICKY TAM (C,D) N Pringle 11-11-4	-
6	00-01	GEATA AN UISCE O Brennan 8-11-4 (6 ex)	M Brennan
7	2141	EBORACUM (C,D) B Wilkinson 6-11-3	Mr G Harker 7
8	4000	BATTLEFIELD BAND P Calver 7-11-2	C Grant
9	0402	THORBELL ARCH R Gray 6-11-1	S Charlton
11	1-00u	FIRST APRIL (C,B) T Cuthbert 8-10-12	B Storey 4
12	0310	THE DIVIDER (C,D) Mrs T Calder 6-10-11	J O'Gorman 7
13	0010	PENNY'S DREAM V Thompson 5-10-11	Mr M Thompson 7

[illegible]

3.45 "HORSE AND HOUND" BUCCLEUCH HUNTERS' CHASE (amateurs: £1,041: 3m) (15)

[illegible]

1983: Hardy Lad [illegible]

7-4 Panegyrist, [illegible]

4.15 CLYDE BRIDGE CHALLENGE CUP HANDICAP CHASE (£1,125: 2m 196yd) (11)

[illegible]

1983: Hope Of Ca[illegible]

7-2 For Good, 4 [illegible]

4.45 BOWMONT NOVICES' HURDLE (4-y-o: £614: 2m) (15)

[illegible]

1983: Hills Gu[illegible]

9-4 Humyak Ho[illegible]

5.15 SPRINGWOOD NOVICES' CHASE (Div II: £810: 2m 6f) (12)

[illegible]

Wincanton

[illegible]

4.0 (1m chase). 1, MINER'S SONG (C Cox, 14-1); 2, Tudor Road (L Bloomfield, 6-1); 3, Latin Amador [illegible]

Ludlow

[illegible]

3.45 (2m hdl) 1, The Thunderer (G Brunton) 4 10 1 (A Carroll 14-1); 2, Jubilee Dove (C Smith 3-1 Fav); 3, Snowy Bondlair (A Griffiths 14-1); 4, Royal Manx (Mr P Morgan 33-1); Also ran: 11-2 Major Setback, 7 County Player (5th), 8 Holly Buoy, 10 Princely Lad, 12 Star Charter, 20 Dance Of Life, Nero Wolf (6th), 25 Don Tomy, 33 Dunstall (P.U), Tread A Measure, Fly More, Fifth Column, Swing To Me, Wynmuth Star. 18 ran. ½, 1½, P M Taylor at Upper Lambourn. Tote £16.70: £3.00, £1.00, £2.60, £25.50 DF £18.10. CSF: £50.87. Tricast: £545.18.

4.15 (2m 4f) 1, Master Melody P Dever 10-1); 2, Chestnut Prince (C Smith 12-1); 3, North Down (J Suthern 20-1); Also ran: 9-4 Fav Fillette Farm, 7 Cumberland Basin, 8 Cold Blood, Ben Spartan (U.R.), 12 Chelsea Bar (4th), 20 Gold Chief (P.U.), Hollow Laugh (P.U.), Trusty Catcher (5th), 50 Cutting Comment, Hatton Lad (6th). 13 Ran. NR: Guerrin, Cwmyrelthin. 2l, 8, W Hackett at Ratcliffe-on-the-Wye. Tote: £15.30: £3.00, £3.60, £15.90 DF £44.90. CSF: £104.68 Tricast: £2,089.04.

4.45 (2m hdl) 1, Edouarde Fox (J Suthern 10-1); 2, Tight Turn (J Frost 10-1); 3, Golfe (G Davies 9-2): Also ran 3 Fav Kildah (6th), 5 Ankerdine Belle (5th), 9 Celtic Harmony, Majestic Cue, 10 Finneako, 25 Mr Mynd (4th), 50 Goldroy, Last Trail, Pearlroy, Purple Blaze, Ross Morgan, Cum On Sonia, Flair Wen, Folly's Country, Regent's Niece. 18 ran. 2½, nk, O. O'Neill, Cheltenham. Tote: £17.20, £4.50, £2.80, £1.00. DF: £80.50. CSF: £95.69.

● Peter Greenall, the 30-year-old amateur rider, achieved his century of winners in Point-to-Point on Wednesday when riding Naughty Niece to victory in the maiden race at the Grove And Ruddord fixture. Greenall has achieved the rare feat [illegible]

Course specialists

KEMPTON

[illegible]

BEVERLEY

[illegible]



PIC GAMES

can plan present united front

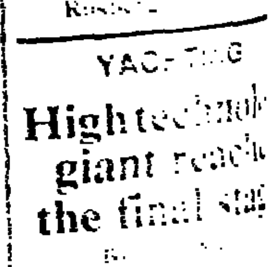
MOTOR RACING

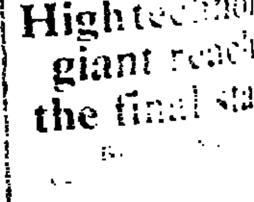
Record for Rosberg in practice

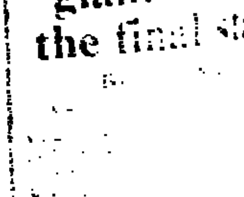
From Ray Kennedy, Kyalami

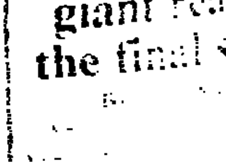
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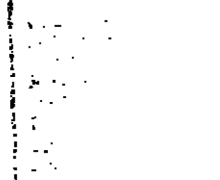
High technology giant reach the final stage











RUGBY UNION: ENGLAND TO PLAY TWO INTERNATIONAL MATCHES ON TOUR

Referee Jones tackles critics

By Gerald Davies

The French do appear to be having a rough time of it lately. In addition to the matters of the economy and agriculture which seem to disgruntle them, it would seem that Welsh referees, as well as Welsh lamb, can stimulate the present Gallic sense of persecution.

Not for the first time this season a Welsh referee has been in the news on the other side of the Channel. Winston Jones, who took charge of the Scotland v France grand slam decider in Edinburgh, has caused something of a stir in much the same way that Clive Norling caused an outcry when he sent off Garuet against Ireland earlier in the season.

Although Jones did not go so far as that, Frenchmen were incensed with what they thought was a premeditated plan to punish the French team at Murrayfield. He ignored, some argue, many of the Scottish transgressions and saw everything that the French did.

"Rubbish," Jones insists. "No referee goes out with the attitude of looking at one side in particular. The occasion at international level is so big you could not afford – I would say it was impossible anyway – to go out into the game with your ideas conditioned in that way.

"Somebody did comment afterwards that I gave six consecutive penalties against France at the start. At the time I wasn't aware of that. I judged the incidents as they arose. If it went against France, well, that was the way it was. When somebody says that kind of thing the implication is that you should balance the penalty count of one side with the other. That is absurd. You simply cannot keep count of the penalties given in the match."

Jones is not perturbed by the criticism: he is not given to that kind of nervous response. "What I will say, though, is that nobody said anything to me immediately after the game. In fact I was congratulated by both sides. It was not until the weekend was over that I heard of any complaints. Presumably this was because people had had an opportunity to check and double-check on television.

"Admittedly there was a lot of tension on both sides. There was a lot at stake. Apart from the opening spell the game developed into a forward battle at close quarters. It was what I call a 'matter of fact' game. There was no flow and it was dominated by set-pieces and a large majority of the possession was kicked away. They were two good sides and in going for the grand slam neither of them wanted to risk anything. It still was a fascinating contest."

However, Jones is concerned about the future development of the game. "The danger is that it is becoming a media game with *someone setting the standard* as to what is a spectacle and what makes good television. To my way of *thinking the game is not designed* – because of the complicated laws and the frequent difficulty spectators find in determining the offence – to take that kind of exposure and pressure."







Jumping at the chance: second row prospects Widdecombe and Cusani (bottom) if injured Syddall (top) cannot make the trip to South Africa.

Search for the big men to tackle S African giants

By David Hands, Rugby Correspondent

The itinerary for England's seven-match tour of South Africa is due to be announced today, although the make-up of the tour party is unlikely to be known for a fortnight. Two international matches are scheduled, as opposed to one when England last toured the Republic in 1972 and the following year when they visited New Zealand.

The selectors' concern at the moment is the composition of a *team to beat South Africa. In* particular they must be worried about the second row, where *South Africa invariably turn out* giants such as Moolman or Bekker, who played for the *Barbarians against Scotland last* season, Colclough has retired, Bainbridge seems unlikely to be *available* and the under-23 at Richmond on Wednesday evening did not offer much comfort.

The most productive line-out forward was Kidner, the Coventry lock, who was playing for England Students. Moreover he and Morrison, of Loughborough University and Bath, helped to generate a shove which had the Rest in some scrummage difficulty. Both, however, are somewhat raw to consider exposing to the Springboks and Kimmins, the huge Orrell lock who played for the Rest, made little impression.

With fitness problems surrounding Sydall, the once-capped Waterloo player, it would be worth considering Widdecombe, the West Countryman in outstanding form for Newport. He is an aggressive front-of-the-line player, and lively in the loose. Cusani, the other Orrell lock, has all the physical dimensions of a number four jumper but may not have developed as fast as one might hope.

The Students, intensely disappointed at losing 14-10 to the Rest in a match they should have won, meet Welsh Students at Wasps next Tuesday and have included two of the successful Nottingham club side: Hodgkinson at full back and Hartley on the wing, both of them studying at Trent Polytechnic. Hartley usually plays centre, but the Students selectors have understandably retained the effective combination of Burnhill, the Yorkshireman from Loughborough University, and Cokell of Thames Polytechnic and Blackheath.

The Welsh have assembled a strong side, captained by Ackerman, the Wales and British Lions centre. It includes another senior international in Shaw the Newbridge lock, and is based firmly on the successful South Glamorgan Institute side, two of whose members Humphreys, at full back and John, at stand-off, distinguished themselves for the Welsh President's team at Llanelli on Tuesday against Crawshay's XV.

ENGLAND STUDENTS: S Hodgkinson (Trent Polytechnic); B Evans (Derby Lonsdale College), S Burnhill (Loughborough University), L Cokell (Thames Polytechnic), G Hartley (Trent Polytechnic; J Skinner (Kingston Polytechnic), R Moon (Uwist); C Mills (Bristol Polytechnic); P Sidi (London School of Law, captain), P Enevoldson (London University, J Wells (Loughborough University), J Morrison (Loughborough University), B Kidner (London University), D Keating (Durham University) N Castleton (Loughborough University). Replacements: W Barker (London University), D Walsh (London University); J Ward (Nottingham University), N Edwards (Oxford Polytechnic), N McBain (Durham University).

WELSH STUDENTS: (South Glamorgan Institute unless stated) N Humphreys, J Hughes, (Southbank Polytechnic), K Hopkins R Ackerman (St Mary's College, captain), J Evans, G John, C Hutchins, J Rowlands) Swansea University), P Johnson, M Waygood, M Watkins (City of London Polytechnic), T Shaw (Polytechnic of Wales), J Collins (Westfield College), J Evans, S King. Replacements: I Greenaway (Westminster Hospital), P Thorburn (Swansea University), A Jones (Swansea University), G Evans (Middlesex Polytechnic), M Whitson (St Paul's and Mary's College) M Roberts, (Swansea University).

Springbok to lead at Cardiff

The WRU President's XV to face Wales at the National Stadium tomorrow will contain all three of the South Africans in their squad, *with the No 8, Rob Louw, chosen as* captain.

The only member of the side who was not included in the original 21-man squad is the Bristol and former England flanker, Mike Rafter, who played in Tuesday's defeat of Crawshay's XV at Llanelli, when Fergus Slattery and Paul Simpson were forced to pull out.

Wales have a doubt over their centre, Robert Ackerman, whose chances of recovering from a tooth infection were described by the WRU co-ordinator, John Dawes, yesterday as "less than 50-50".

Mark Douglas, of London Welsh, who was a replacement for the Wales WV, has withdrawn through injury and his place is taken by Ray Giles, of Aberavon.

PRESIDENT'S XV: R J Gould (Australia); P Grigg (Australia), W Cupido (South Africa), S Pokere (New Zealand), P Esteve (France); J Y Rutherford (Scotland), J Gallion (France); H J van Aswegan (South Africa), C T Deans (Scotland), M Harding (Australia), D G Leslie (Scotland), G Whetton (New Zealand), M J Colclough (England), M Rafter (England), R J Low (South Africa, capt). Replacements: B Vivies (France), M Bailey (Cambridge University), G Bertles (Aukland), H Reid (New Zealand), P A Orr (Ireland), J Gadd (Gloucester).

● **London Irish resume their fixture with Moseley after a six-year gap at Sunbury tomorrow without five of their regular players. Hugh Condon, their Irish international stand-off, is the only one forced out because of injury – he has broken bones in his foot after dropping a piece of rock on it while gardening last week.**

Strong competition for centenary cup

Schools rugby by Michael Stevenson

The fact that the finals of both divisions of the Roehampton Sevens were fought out between northern schools (West Park School v Birkenhead School and Ampleforth v Rossall) has occasioned broad pedagogic grins north of the Trent. Delight will intensify, however, if a northern school is named on Sunday as the new holders of the Peter Yates Centenary Cup.

This imposing trophy will go to the eventual winners of the All England Schools Festival, organised by the Preston Grasshoppers Club and sponsored for the first time by Yates Brothers after five years of sponsorship by Townson's of Bolton.

The tournament, largely a brainchild of Richard Greenwood, the former England flanker and captain and present England coach, is 15-a-side, unlike the proliferating Sevens *tournament that jostle* one another at this time of the season; the matches are 15 minutes each way.

Thirty two schools will compete *and the lowest number of games* that could be played is six, with the finalists playing eight matches in the three days of the festival, today, tomorrow and Sunday. This means, of course, that stamina is almost as important as skill and it is no coincidence that all the previous winners, with one exception, have been outstandingly powerful, physically imposing sides.

The exception was the 1982 winner, West Park, basing their game on skilled back play and a fanatical dedication to keeping the ball alive; it will be interesting, after their victory at Roehampton, to see if this year's unbeaten side, can crown a magnificant season with victory at Preston. They must surely suffer the disadvantage as starting as favourites.

Rugby enthusiasts in the North West, who do not attend the semi-finals of the Lancashire Cup on Sunday may still be spoilt for choice this weekend; apart from the Preston Festival, England Colts are *entertaining* France at Fylde tomorrow and on Sunday the Cheshire RFU is organizing a County Colts *seven-a-side* tournment to be held at Chester RFC, where Lancashire will be defending the title they won last year.

On Wednesday next, April 11, the 18 Group has an opportunity to erase memories of a frustrating *season* at senior level, when England's schools entertain Wales at Grange Road, Cambridge (kick-off 6.30 pm).

TEAM: A M B Hobbs (Cranleigh School); P J Hamer (Lancaster RGS), W D C Carling (Sedbergh), J M Priestley (Bradford GS), J A Bennett (Bristol Cathedral School); A J Buzza (Redruth CS), G D Sephton (Cowley HS); N A BaNbury (Arnold CS), D W Haley (John Wilmott Sutton Coldfield), R A Hunt (Trent College), S S Bryant (Sherborne), A G Blackmore (Bedminster Down School, Bristol), D A Hay (Lyndhurst School, Gateshead), M D Sweett (Sutton HS, Plymouth), J B Wilby (QEGS Wakefield). Replacements: P W Thompson (Ampleforth), P A Whitehurst (Hallcross CS, Doncaster), T S Jones (Cranleigh), J P West (Wirral GS).

BOXING

Could be goodnight for the champion if Collins wakes up

By Srikumar Sen, Boxing Correspondent

If bouts were won on managers' talk, Dennis Andries, of Hackney, would have little trouble defending his British light-heavyweight title against Tom Collins tonight at Watford Town Hall.

Greg Steene, the champion's manager, is certain that Andries will stop Collins. "Dennis is fitter than he has ever been. He has boxed 150 rounds and I can see him stopping Collins," Steene said.

Trevor Callighan, the challenger's manager on the other hand is far from certain that his challenger will throw a punch, let alone land one, for Collins has a less than engaging habit of going to sleet during a contest. In fact he hardly woke up in time to save his title being taken away from him at the Lyceum 70 days ago.

Callighan has, however, done everything to see that Collins is mentally ready. "If he has not been affected by that Lyceum defeat he *will win," Callighan said.*

To bring his boxing to life Callighan even tried to speed up Collins's lifestyle, suggesting sartorial changes and taking him out on the town as often as possible. "But he is a quiet lad. He likes staying at home and there is no swearing or bad-ladding in his life." In the end the manager resorted to different training methods.

Instead of long jogs he put Collins through short sharp bursts of pressure. "We will have to wait well *into th fight to see if it has worked,"* Callighan said. If he has done the trick Andries could be in for a pasting for on his night Collins is one of the most accomplished boxers in this country. He is the only boxer to have floored *Mustapaha Wassaja, of Uganda.*

This is the fifth meeting between the two men and the score stands at 3-1. The reason for the quick return the January bout is that Collins had had to defend his title in an undersize, non-regulation ring as the correct one had been stolen from the lock-up garage. Collins had agreed to go through with his defence in a ring unsuited to his boxing and tailor-made for a fighter like Andries, on condition that if he lost Steene would fix up a return as quickly as possible.

Andries hopes to challenge David Pearce if he wins and his manager has said he will send the Hackney fighter to Gleason's gym in New *York to prepare for that bout.*

Barry McGuigan, who had a magnificent victory in Belast on Wednesday night when he stopped José Caba, of the Dominican Republic, in seven rounds, will have his next bout in London when he defends his Eurupean title against Estaban Equia, the Spanish featherwieght champion. Mickey Duff has been appointed his agent in the United States and it is expected that by November the King's Hall could see the tough Irishman challenge for the world title.

The British closed-circuit rights for the Larry Holmes-Gerrie Coetzee world title bout in Las Vegas on June 8 have been secured by Savile Artists and Satellite Express. The bout will be shown in cinemas and nightclubs.

Elbilia's chance

New York (Reuter) – Milton McCrory will make a second defence of his World Boxing Association (WBA) welterweight title against the European champion Gilles Elbilia, of France on April 15 *in Detroit. In his first title defence,* McCrory knocked out Milton Guest, of the United States, in the sixth round last January.

ATHLETICS

No need for beaten Cram to be alarmed

By David Powell

Steve Cram may have lost his winning habit but as a humourist he remains well up the field. "I haven't won since I got married," he said wryly after finishing sixth in the Newcastle City centre 5,000 metres road race on Wednesday evening.

The Olympic Games are too far in the distance for him to be over concerned about his poor competi*tive record since he returned from* winter in Australia and New Zealand. "All Steve has got to do is win that Olympic gold medal," his coach, Jimmy Hedley, said with all the forward assurance of a man who helped Cram towards his Commonwealth, European and World 1,500 metres titles.

Three successive defeats on home soil, or anywhere for that matter, is not what we have come to expect of the youngest of Britain's triumvirite of Blue Ribband event runners.

"I m disappointed with the way I ran, not that it will set me back but I would like to have done better," he said. "I am finding it hard to get the right mental attitude because I know the pressure is going to be there throughout the summer. With a lap to go I was thinking 'Here we go again'. I wasn't fighting".

There is no cause for alarm. *Although a little less than 19 weeks* remain before the Olympic final in Los Angeles, it was one of the wonders of contemporary track and field that he managed, after only ten weeks training, to show his back to the likes of Scott, Aouita and Ovett in Helsinki last August.

"Anything now is a bonus", Cram says. "I will be doing a short, rapid *build-up." He is shortly off for three* week's training to Boulder, Colorado, flying in the face of superstition. It was in Boulder last year that he strained his groin, then, just as he was recovering, he sprained an ankle on a coco cola can.

For David Moorcroft and Mike McLeod, however, there was no instant cure to injury and they both *missed* the world championship. Moorcroft, over his world record distance for which he had been pre-selected for the Olympics, looked the least comfortable of the first six men across the line on Wednesday

McLeod is in better condition. He put his speed to good effect in Newcastle, outpacing David Lewis, who was second. Lewis will surely give Eamonn Martin and Tim Hutchings a good run for their money in the Olympic 5,000 metres trial.

CRICKET

Wood's short tour is over

Bridgetown (Reuter)–Graeme Wood, the left-handed opening batsman who joined Australia's tour of West Indies two weeks ago as a replacement for the injured keeper Wessels is going home with a fractured right index finger.

Wood, who has broken the same finger on three previous occasions, was struck by a ball from Garner during the second innings of the third Test match which Australia lost on Wednesday by 10 wickets. The fourth Test match starts in Antigua on Saturday.

Since joining the touring side, Wood has scored 76 and 3 against Barbados and 68 and 20 in the third Test match.

A surprise omission from the original tour party, Wood was a big success on his previous visit to the West Indies six years ago.

Col Eagar, the Australian manager, said: We are not sending for another replacement. With only four weeks of the tour left, there is no point, especialy as the season in Australia has been finished for some weeks and anybody who may come out is not likely to be in touch."

Steve Smith, the right-handed opener from New South Wales who was hit on the forearm in the same innings by a ball from Marshall, also had an X-ray examination on the bone on Wednesday but no break was shown. He is expected to be fit enough to play in the fourth Test.

● The bowling figures in West Indies' second innings of the third Test match were: Lawson 2-1-3-0; Alderman 1.5-0-18-0.



Wood

Great interest in Asia Cup

Sharjah, United Arab Emirates (Reuter) – Big crowds are expected *for the inaugural Asia Cup between* India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka, and 90 per cent of tickets have been sold for the seven-day event, officials reported yesterday.

More than $1m (£680,000) have been allocated to running the *competition, according to* Abdul Rahman Bukhatir, chief organiser of the event. "I want to give a big boost to the game in the gulf," he said. Pakistan meet Sri Lanka in a 50-over match today.

Law Report April 6 1984

Car insurers' bureau liable for criminal injury

Gardner v Moore and Another

Before Lord Hailsham of St Marylebone, Lord Chancellor, Lord Diplock, Lord Keith of Kinkel, Lord Brandon of Oakbrook and Lord Templeman.

[Speeches delivered April 5]

The Motor Insurers' Bureau were liable to indemnify a pedestrian injured by a car deliberately and criminally driven at him by an uninsured motorist.

The House of Lords dismissed an appeal by the bureau brought direct under the "leap-frog" procedure in sections 12 and 13 of the Administration of Justice Act 1969, from a judgment of Mr Justice Caulfield given at Liverpool on July 28, 1983, awarding the plaintiff pedestrian, Alan Gardner, £14,823 with interest and costs against the first defendant, Alan Moore, and declaring that the bureau, the second defendants, were liable to indemnify the plaintiff in respect of that judgment.

Clause 1 of the MIB agreement between the bureau and the Secretary of State for the Environment dated November 22, 1972 provides:

"In this agreement . . . 'relevant liability' means a liability in respect of which a policy of insurance must insure a person in order to comply with Part VI of the Road Traffic Act 1972."

By clause 2: "If judgment in respect of any relevant liability is obtained against any person or persons in any court in Great Britain whether or not such a person or persons be in fact covered by a contract of insurance and any such judgment is not satisfied in full within seven days from the date upon which the person or persons in whose favour the judgment was given became entitled to enforce it then MIB will . . . pay . . . to . . . the person or persons in whose favour the judgment was given any sum payable or remaining payable thereunder in respect of the relevant liability . . .".

Section 143 in Part VI of the 1972 Act provides: "(1) Subject to the provisions of this Part of this Act, it shall not be lawful for a person to use, or to cause or permit any other person to use, a motor vehicle on a road unless there is in force in realtion to the use of the vehicle by that person or that other person, as the case may be, such a policy of insurance or such a security in respect of third party risks as complies with the requirements of this Part of this Act; and if a person acts in contravention of this section he shall be guilty of an offence."

Section 145 provides: "(1) In order to comply with the requirements of this Part of this Act, a policy of insurance must satisfy the following conditions. (2) The policy must be issued by an authorized insurer . . . (3) . . . the policy – (a) must insure such person, persons or classes of persons as may be specified in the policy in respect of any liability which may be incurred by him or them in respect of the death of or bodily injury to any person caused by, or arising out of, the use of the vehicle on a road; . . ."

Mr Piers Ashworth, QC and Mr Charles James for the bureau; Mr *Andrew Rankin, QC and* R. A. Fordham for the plaintiff.

THE LORD CHANCELLOR said that the plaintiff's injuries had been caused by the intentionally criminal act of the first defendant who had deliberately driven his car on to the pavement where the plaintiff had been walking and intentionally run him down.

He had subsequently pleaded guilty to a charge under section 18 of the Offences Against the Person Act, 1861, of wounding the plaintiff with intent to cause him grievous bodily harm and had been *sentenced to three years' imprisonment.* He had not been insured by any relevant policy of insurance under Part VI of the Road Traffic Act 1972.

It had not been disputed that Mr Justice Caulfield had been bound by *the decision of the Court of Appeal* in *Hardy v Motor Insurers' Bureau* ([1964] 2 QB 745) to give judgment for the plaintiff against the bureau. The sole question for decision by the House was accordingly whether *Hardy* had been correctly decided.

That depended primarily on the true construction of the MIB agreement, Part VI of the 1972 Act and the proper application of any rule of law of public policy arising from the fact that the first defendant's actions had been caused *not by negligence or recklessness but* by his deliberate act amounting to an offence under the 1861 Act.

The MIB agreement and its sister and similar agreement of the same date relating to untraced drivers had been entered into to fill the gap in *the protection afforded to the* innocent third party by Part VI of the 1972 Act in the case of uninsured or untraceable drivers. Their foundations in jurisprudence were better not questioned any more than the demises of John Doe and the behaviour of Richard Roe in the old ejectment actions.

The sole question for decision in the appeal depended on whether the events that had happened constituted a "relevant liability" within the meaning of clause 1 of the MIB agreement. *It followed* from sections 143 (1) and 145 (1) to (3) of the 1972 Act that, to constitute a "relevant liability," the plaintiff's judgment against the first defendant must have been a judgment payable in respect of a liability incurred by the *first defendant for damages for* personal injury "caused by, or arising out of, the use of" the first defendant's car on the road.

At this stage, his Lordship found it irresistible to quote the words used by Lord Justice Diplock in *Hardy*, at p766: "The injuries which the plaintiff sustained were caused by or arose out of Phillips' use of his motor van on a road. Phillips' liability to the plaintiff falls within the ordinary meaning of the very simple words used in the statute. *Why should some other meaning be* ascribed to them?

"It is true that there may be cases in which it is apparent from the context, the subject matter or the disclosed policy of a statute that Parliament must have intended general *expressions* which it has used to be understood in a narrower sense that that which they would ordinarily bear . . .

"But what is there in the context, the subject matter or the disclosed policy of Part VI of the Road Traffic Act 1960 which compels the conclusion that, notwithstanding that the liability which Phillips incurred to the plaintiff falls within the ordinary meaning of the words of section 203 which I have quoted, those words are nevertheless to be understood as excluding it?"

The bureau invoked the general principle of insurance law, indeed of the law of contract, that a person (or those who stood in his shoes) might not stand to gain an advantage arising from the consequences of his own iniquity. But the doctrine had its limits.

Lord Esher, Master of the Rolls, had said in *Cleaver v Mutual Reserve Fund Life Association* ([1892] 1 QB 147, 153): "This doctrine ought not to be stretched beyond what is necessary for the protection of the public", and Lord Justice Fry had said, at p 160: "[The doctrine] appears to me to throw no impediment in the way of a suit by those who claim with clean hands themselves and as assigns of the innocent assured".

All the cases had been fully considered in *Hardy*. It seemed to his Lordship that the outcome of the general principle was that, whereas it might be invoked against the wrongdoer, it could not be invoked against an innocent third party whose claim was not through that of the wrongdoer.

Light was shed on the policy of the 1972 Act by sections 148 and 149. The words of sections 143 and 145 were sufficiently wide in their literal meaning to dispose of the case in a sense adverse to the bureau, but with the two additional *sections the purposive construction* became even clearer.

To invoke the doctrine of public policy that a man might not profit by the consequences of his own wrong seemed to his Lordship to stand the principle of public policy on its head. There were no socially desirable consequences flowing from its application in the sense contended for by the bureau. On the contrary, all the pointers in sections 143 and 145 read alone or in conjunction with sections 148 and 149 seemed to him to point exactly in the opposite direction.

The construction of the MIB agreement contended for by the bureau was contrary to the grammatical sense of the agreement, read, as it must be, in the context of the Act, and the construction of the Act contended for by the bureau was contrary both to its manifest grammatical meaning and to the policy illustrated by its more mature articulation.

His Lordship added that their Lordships had been invited by the bureau to examine the actual terms of policies and certificates issued by existing insurance companies, with a view to ascertaining the meaning of the word "accident" in the *description of the risk thereby* insured.

His Lordship was not sure that their Lordships had been right to examine these. He assumed that they had been.

But either they covered the risk *required to be insured against* by sections 143 and 145 of the Road Traffic Act of 1972 and applied by the certificates or they did not. If they did, well and good. If they did not, the certificates would amount to a misrepresentation of the risks *covered by the policies. In neither* case could they affect the construction either of the statute or of the MIB agreement.

Their Lordships had also been invited to examine the Criminal Injuries Compensation Scheme, *which expressly covered the use of a* motor vehicle as a weapon. Indeed, the bureau's defence expressly contained "that the plaintiff's claim should be brought under the . . . scheme".

His Lordship did not understand why. *The two remedies were* not necessarily mutually exclusive alternatives and had not been designed to be so.

The scheme was itself markedly less advantageous to the claimant than the MIB agreement, and since the *MIB* agreement and the *road* traffic legislation had come into being long before the scheme had been introduced his Lordship could not see that the scheme could be used as an aid to their construction.

Lord Diplock, Lord Keith, Lord *Brandon and Lord Templeman* agreed.

Solicitors: L. Bingham & Co for Davis Campbell & Co, Liverpool; Hextall Erskine & Co for E. Rex Makin & Co, Liverpool.

Cases for three judges

Graham v Philcox

During an appeal before a two-judge Court of Appeal, Lord Justice May, sitting with Lord Justice Purchas referred on April 4 to *Practice Note (Court of Appeal: New Procedure)* ([1982] 1 WLR 1312, 1318; see also *The Times*, April 5) *and said that the question whether* application should be made for a three-judge court ought to be considered when the appeal was set down.

Sharp v Sharp

In financial provision appeals giving rise to difficult and important problems relating to the family capital it would be useful if counsel would consider whether *it* was appropriate to consult the regisrar of civil appeals with a view to it *being heard by a three-judge court,* Lord Justice Cumming-Bruce, sitting with Lord Justice Dunn and Mr Justice Wood, said in the Court of Appeal on April 5.

Enforcing planning law

Ragsdale v Creswick

The failure of a landowner to take legal proceedings to evict a trespasser on his land who had been acting in breach of an enforcement notice served on them both under section 87 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1971 might amount to a failure to take reasonable steps to secure compliance with the notice, but that would depend, *inter alia*, on the nature, cost and prospects of success of the proceedings, and also upon the prospects of the local *authority succeeding* in procuring the cessation of the offending user by means of daily fines on the trespasser under section 89(5), the Queen's Bench Divisional Court (Lord Justice Parker and Mr Justice Forbes) stated on April 2.

RUGBY LEAGUE

Thompson bows out with a final challenge

By Keith Macklin

The long and lively career of Billy Thompson, aged 50, the referee who retires at the end of the season, will come to the best possible climax. Yesterday he was named as the referee for the 1984 Challenge Cup final at Wembley.

The game between Widnes and Wigan on May 5, will be Thompson's thrid Wembley final after taking charge in 1971 and *1978, and there is little doubt that* sentiment helped to sway the League's decision. Thompson has *often been a figure of contorversy* but he is an outspoken and humourous man respected by and popular with players.

As a referee he has won every honour in the game, handling international matches throughtout the world, in addition to domestic trophy finals. He began his career as a grade two referee in 1966, and now lives and workds in Huddersfield. The deputy referee for the final is Derek Fox, of Wakefield.

Due to fixture congestion during the cold spell early this year, the second division season has been extended to May 13, while the first division season ends on April 25.

Relentless gaze of cameras signals a fade-out of spectators

Football a slave to demands of television

Football was never mentioned in George Orwell's novel *Nineteen Eighty-Four*, but if it had been I wonder whether he would have prophesied how the game has become a slave to the demands of television. Television is football's equivalent of Big Brother and with the introduction this season of live matches, added to the usual package of edited highlights, it is more and more difficult to escape from the relentless *gaze of the cameras.*

A personal survey of football on the small screen has produced findings even more alarming than I had imagined. In one recent 11-day period no fewer than 15 matches were televised on sports programmes. BBC's *Match of the Day* set the ball rolling with highlights from three FA Cup games. The next day ITV showed a live cup offering. The following Wednesday, *Midweek Sports Special* treated us to – or should I say smothered us with – another glut of cup matches. Armchair spectators saw not only highlights from two cup *games* but the goals and snatches of action from three ties played earlier in the week.

There was a three-day *respite*, then *Match of the Day* made a rare visit to the fourth division and took in an Aberdeen v Celtic clash. The following day saw the return of edited highlights on ITV. Brian Moore and his team presenting the best action from a first and a second *division* match. Two days later, *Cup Soccer Special* replaced the advertised programme on BBC in order *to bring us highlights of* the Liverpool-Walsall Milk Cup semi-final first leg.

The saturation coverage does not, unfortunately, end there, for the news *programmes* are in on the act too. Last, but by no means least, are the early Saturday afternoon football programmes, the BBC's *Football Focus and ITV's On The Ball*, with their penchant for showing goals, goals and more goals from the past week's matches.

With TV leaving almost nothing to the imagination, is it any wonder that attendances at this season's FA Cup fourth round games were the worst for years, or that there were only three gates of over 20,000 for the Cannon League matches of one February afternoon? Live coverage, acclaimed by TV chiefs as football's salvation, has been nohing of the sort. The most damning indictment came on a pleasant, sunny afternoon when Manchester United, the country's biggest box office draw, could attract only 11,265 paying customers to Luton's Kenilworth

Manchester City's attendance of 20,140 for the home match against Cardiff City, 24 hours before ITV's first live screening of the Milk Cup final, was the highest of the afternoon. In this situation football cannot win. If the live match is sub-standard, the armchair viewere will be even more reluctant to pay at the turnstile; *if the live match is a classic, then* the armchair viewer is unlikely to settle for second best elswhere, particulary on a cold winter's day.

If only the League chairmen had has the courage to reject last year's deal with TV. Those same chairmen are now bemoaning low crowds and are fearful of the consequences. My feelings are similar to those of Jack Dunnett, the League president and Notts County chairman, who thought it a good idea to have no football on TB for a year. Another man with Nottingham connexions, Brian Clough, is also against live televised football, although that did not stop him being Brian Moore's right-man at the Milk Cup final.

When will TV's intrusion into football stop? If it does not, by the year 2000 we may have the ultimate horror: footballers *playing to packed living rooms and empty* stadiums.

Vince Wright

HOCKEY

Wales's chance to restore confidence

By Joyce Whitehead

Spain are visiting Wales to play three matches in 48 hours. Today they take on the week natural side at Bryndolau, the university playing fields in Aberystwyth at 2.30. Tomorrow morning they face Wales Under-21 and at 2.30 they meet the full Welsh international side.

Their visit is part of their training for the first European Zone Cup to be played in Lille, France, from May *3 to 13. With Spain will be teams* from England, Austria, Belgium, Czechoslovakia, France, West Germany, Ireland, Italy, the Netherlands.

Wales have not had a successful season. When stalwarts such as Sheila Morrow and Shirley Ellis retire, it takes time for a team to *recognize, and today and tomorrow* could well restore Wales's confidence.

The West clubs tournament at Weymouth last weekend was washed out after the sectional matches, and the finals will now take place on Sunday, starting at 12.30 on the Ladies College ground, Cheltenham.

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[illegible]

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280 CE COUPE AUTO 1978, deep metallic blue, electric windows sunroof. alloys. stereo [illegible]

280E (1982) 280E (1982), automatic. manila beige. elec sunroof/windows. stereo. immac condition. 17,000 miles. £11,300 ono. Tel: Northwood 24757.

Motoring by Clifford Webb

One-way traffic from East increases

Imports of East European cars are growing steadily and it is all one-way traffic. Britain does not *sell a single car behind the Iron* Curtain, yet East European cars sell here without any restriction on their numbers and in some cases without any import duties.

The four countries selling here, the Soviet Union, Poland, Czechoslovakia and Yugoslavia, will soon be joined by Rumania.

Lada cars from Russia and FSO (Polski Fiats) from Poland pay the standard EEC non-member tariff of 10.5 per cent but Rumanian Dacias pays nothing. They are classified by the EEC as coming from an underdevelop country requiring special preference".

Yugoslavia's duty-free Zastavas owe their immunity to the *40-year-old Treaty of Trieste* signed by Marshall Tito and Winston Churchill.

East European car imports are confusing and, in the view of UK-based motor manufacturers, constitute an unfair addition to the overcroweded ranks of the importers, who account for 55 per cent of cars sold.

At the moment it is more a minor irritation than a major threat, but it needs watching. Comecon cars increased their market share here from 1.9 per cent (30,660) to a little over 2 per cent (36.983) last year. And they did it in a much bigger overall market.

This is not the first time Dacia cars have been sold in Britain. The last attempt ended ten months ago in financial disaster, leaving *much bad* feeling in the motor trade.

The basic problem was the quality and reliability of a car based on the 10-year-old Renault 12, which went out of production in France four years ago.

It was shipped here in left-hand drive form and had to be converted to right-hand drive.

The Dacias were not the best made cars in the first place and botched conversion work sent warranty claims through the ceiling. Trade sources suggest that the coversions accounted for 80 per cent of warranty claims.

The new owners of Dacia Car Co, rechristened Dacia Concessionaires, are Giles Dilton Ltd, of Westbury, Wiltshire. But at least one of the key members of the old company has moved with the deal. He is Mr Maynard Hamilton, a shareholder and sales director, just as he was before.

Mr Hamilton admits the reliability problems with the old set-up, but insists that the new company will not suffer in the same way, because it is only bringing in four-wheel drive cross country vehicles and a one-ton rear wheel drive pick-up, *all* factory fitted for right-hand drive.



Arriving next month: The Dacia Duster 4x4 GLX and Pick-up.



Lancia Coupe Volumex: a wolf in sheep's clothing.

They will not arrive until the end of the month, but from photographs the fully-enclosed Dacia Duster 4x4 GLX and its canvas covered open back variant look promising.

Dacia is already referring to the GLX as "a poor man's Range Rover" and at only £5,995 it must be worth looking at. The One Ton pick-up does not have the 4x4 facility but costs only £2,995 and is said to be a robust load carrier. All five vehicles have the same engine-based on the 1400cc Renault unit.

Some potential buyers were approached before Dilton. One *told* me: "*We decided* that it would be two or three years before Dacia could hold its head up in Britain again. It left behind a terrible mess. But that is not the only problem. The Rumanians are extremely difficult people to deal with".

By steering clear of cars, at least for the first year or two, the *new owners hope to avoid the* worst of the aftermath. But they can do nothing about the Rumanians' reputation as difficult traders.

Turbo v supercharger

Lancia's two-litre coupe is in the classic mould for this type of car: low-slung, stretched bonnet, *steeply slooped rear windscreen*, reduced rear seat accommodation and all mounted on a short wheelbase. But it is showing its age now and no amount of "dolling up" with air dams, tinted windows and alloy wheels *can hide that.*

Lancia's hard-pressed designers and engineers do not need telling the obvious but they are in *the middle of a long overdue* programme to replace their entire range within the next three years. In the meantime they have had to look to other means to give the coupe and its half brother, the HP Executive, another lease of life.

The route chosen by many of their competitors in similar *circumstances* is to add a turbocharger, go-faster stripes, front air dams coming perilously close to the road surface and rear spoilers big enough to double as coffee trays at point to points.

Such bad taste is not for *Lancia. Its latest* aerodynamic aids are in keeping with a more refined era and the only outward sign of the exciting things that have happened under the bonnet is the initials "VX" affixed to the front grill. They stand for Volumex and refer to the only positive displacement compressor system fitted to a *production car.*

You and I know it is supercharging and for the oldest among us it goes with the nose tingling smell of Castrol R and the racing giants of yester year.

A supercharger is driven by the engine and pumps extra mixture into the combustion chambers as soon as the crankshaft starts to turn.

A turbo charger is driven by the engine's exhaust gases and does not become effective until the engine is turning at between 2,000 and 3,000 rpm. This leads to the famous turbo "lag", while the supercharger's Achilles heel is its wasteful use of engine power.

Lancia chose the supercharging route to obtain a smooth progression from tick-over to flat out. All the more pity then that *the test car* only acted out its proper role at intervals. Sometimes when the accelerator was floored, the engine gave a disconcerting gulp before screaming up the power band.

With a top speed of 124 mph and acceleration to match, the Volmex coupe's subdued styling makes it something of a wolf in sheep's clothing. It will see off many of its more youthful rivals in the traffic light grand prix or on the big, sweeping bends that show up suspect road holding but where the front wheel layout of the Lancea is at its best.

Yet it remains a very relaxing car to drive around town. Driveability is helped by a five-speed gearbox *on which the* selection mechanism is much quieter and smoother than on earlier models.

Vital statistics

Model: Lancia Coupe Volumex.
Engine: 1955cc, four cyliner supercharged.
Price: £8,315
Performance: maximum speed 124mph, 0 to 60mph 9.1 secs.
Official consumption, urban 22.4mpg; 56mph 39mpg and 75mph 31mpg.
Length: 13.1ft.
Insurance: group rating 5/7.

No exaggeration

4 The new 1600cc Ford diesel engine will reach showrooms in a few weeks' time as an optional power unit for Fiestas, Escorts and Orions.

As I reported last month, it will be accompanied by some pretty remarkable claims for fuel economy suggesting that 70mpg is *within reach of most drivers.*

I am happy to report that for once a motor manufacturer is not *exaggerating. Driven mainly with* a care for economy but including a few like myself who deliberately used a heavy foot, 32 motoring journalists averaged 74mpg. My own returns were 65.8mpg for the Fiesta and 54.7mpg for the Orion.

Less happily, however, I was disappointed by the lack of punch in the new engine. In my view it needs further development before it is as zestful as the Cavalier *diesel, the much older Golf diesel* or the new prince of diesel cars, the Peugeot 205 GRD.

Still in the numbers Ford plans to build them for Europe, they could arrive at a very tempting price...

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MERCEDES 190E 5 spd. Regd 23.2.84. Silver Blue metallic. Becker Mexico radio cassette. offers. 0698-375706(T).

1982 MERCEDES 280E. White. ESR. 4 speaker stereo. 11,000 miles. 1 fastidious owner. Immaculate condition. £12,250. 0622 26112 (T).

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280 SE 'V' REG. Red ESR alloys. Service history. immaculate. £8,450. Part ex considered (eves) 02514 5362.

280 C.E. Coupe. 1980. light metallic blue. alloy wheels. electric sun roof. electric windows: 63,000 miles: £7,950 ono. - Tel 0202 683401.

280 COUPE 1978 Superb cond. FSH. Met & Taxed. £6,300 ono. Tel. 01-237 3481 (day) 01-851 6941 (eve).

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528 AUTO 1977. PAS. blue. MOT Jan [illegible]

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82 Y 316 Auto, Henna red with Anthracite cloth, sunroof, radio cassette, 10,500 mls. £5,595
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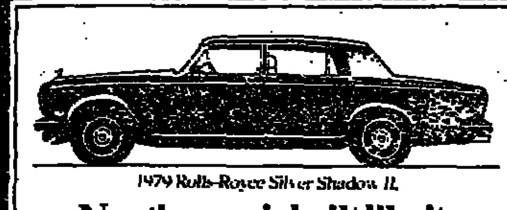
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continued on page 28

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LEGAL NOTICES

Continued from page 22

MISCELLANEOUS FINANCIAL

DECLARATION OF DIVIDENDS



ROBECO NV

With reference to the announcement dated 30th March 1984 concerning the cash dividend for the financial year 1983 on Sub-shares registered in the name of National Provincial Bank (Nominees) Limited, the rate of exchange for the payment of this dividend is Fls. 4.2250=£1.

UNITED KINGDOM RESIDENTS

The gross dividend is £0.30769231 per Sub-share and is subject to the following deductions:

15% Dutch Tax	=£0.04615385	per Sub-share
15% U.K. Tax	=£0.04615385	per Sub-share
Exchange and M.N. comm.	=£0.00416899	per Sub-share
Net Payment	=£0.21121562	per Sub-share

NON RESIDENTS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM

Where 25% Dutch Tax is applicable, the following deductions apply:

25% Dutch Tax	=£0.07692308	per Sub-share
30% U.K. Tax on net dividend (when applicable)	=£0.06923077	per Sub-share
Exchange and M.N. Comm.	=£0.00416899	per Sub-share
Net Payment	=£0.15736947	per Sub-share

Where 15% Dutch Tax is applicable the calculations are as for United Kingdom Residents, but relief from United Kingdom tax is immediately obtained provided that the appropriate Inland Revenue Affidavit is lodged with the claim.

ENTERTAINMENTS

OPERA & BALLET

THEATRES

CONCERTS



Today's television and radio programmes

Summaries by Peter Dear and Peter Davalle

BBC 1

6.00 **Ceefax AM.** News headlines, weather, traffic and sports bulletins. Also available to viewers with television sets without the teletext facility.

6.30 **Breakfast Time** with Frank Bough and Fern Britton. News from Debbie Rix at 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00 and 8.30; sport at 6.40 and 7.40; regional news, weather and traffic at 6.45, 7.15, 7.45 and 8.15; television preview at 6.55; review of the morning papers at 7.18 and 8.18; gardening tips between 7.30 and 7.45; pop news between 7.45 and 8.00; horoscopes at 8.33; cookery hints between 8.30 and 9.00.

9.00 **Food and Drink** samples Armagnac brandy (shown yesterday). 9.30 Ceefax. 10.30 **Play School**, presented by *Sheelagh Gilbey (r)*. *10.55* **Ceefax.**

12.30 **News After Noon** with Richard Whitmore and Frances Coverdale. The weather prospects come from Ian McCaskill. **12.57** Regional *news (London and SE only:* Financial report followed by news headlines with subtitles). **1.00 Pebble Mill at One.** Jill Crawshaw has some pre-Easter holiday advice; Alan Price has a song; and Peter Seabrook has gardening hints. **1.45 Heads and Tails.** A See-Saw programme for the very young (r).

2.00 **Film: Queen of Hearts*** (1936) starring Gracie Fields as a seamstress with a crush on the star of a musical. Directed by Monty Banks. **3.15 Take Me Back to New Orleans.** Bob Langley and the Chris Barber Band visit the city's French Quarter, ride a steam boat and attend concerts at Tipitinas and the Fairmont. They also engage in conversation jazz giants Dr John and Freddie Kohlman (r). **3.53** Regional news (not London).

3.55 **Play School,** presented by Shireen Shah. **4.20 The New Shmoo** (r) **4.40 Playhouse: Hawking.** Red Indian brave adventure starring John Duttine *(r)*. *5.05* **Captain Zep – Space Detective.** This week's case concerns mystery of the Tree of Yath.

5.40 **Sixty Minutes** includes the news read by Jan Leeming at 5.40; weather at 5.54; regional *magazines* at 5.55; and news headlines at 6.38.

6.40 **Pink Panther.** Three cartoons (r).

7.00 **Odd One Out.** Paul Daniels presents the first of a new series of quiz shows.

7.30 **Fame.** Two street gangs – the Enforcers and the Silhouettes – decide to compete in a 'Breakdance' competition rather than the usual brawl for supremacy. Christopher *coaches one gang, Michael* the other.

8.20 **Time of Your Life.** The first of a new series that looks back with pleasure at certain times in the 60s. Presented by Noel Edmonds.

9.00 **News** with Sue Lawley.

9.25 **Starsky and Hutch.** The wife of a Texas tycoon is brutally murdered and the two detectives have to find the killers before the husband *takes the law into his own* hands (r).

10.15 **Potter.** Another comic episode from the life of the retired but active busybody, Redvers Potter.

10.45 **News headlines and weather.**

10.50 **Film: The Trials of Oscar Wilde** (1960) starring Peter Finch. Straightforward adaptation of the play The Stringed Lute and the book, The Trials of Oscar Wilde. *Directed by Ken Hughes.* Ends at 12.55.

TV-am

6.25 **Good Morning Britain** presented by John Stapleton and *Jayne Irving. News at* 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30 and 9.00; sport at 6.35 and 7.35; consumer affairs at 6.40 and 9.05; fishing hints at 6.45; exercises at 6.50 and 9.15; the day's anniversaries at 7.05 *and 8.05; a guest in the* Spotlight at 7.20; cartoon at 7.25; Patrick Mower at 7.40; pop video at 7.55; Chris Tarrant's post bag at 8.10; Jimmy Greaves's television highlights at 8.35.

ITV/LONDON

9.25 Thames news headlines followed by **Sesame Street.** **10.25 Little Rascals*** in The Glove Taps. Vintage comedy. **10.35 Bracken. 11.35 Sport Billy.** Adventures of the world's greatest athlete.

12.00 **Alfie Dickens.** Cartoon for the very young. **12.10 Rainbow.** Learning with puppets. **12.30 On the Market.** A new series, presented by *Susan Brookes* and Trevor Hyett, that questions modern eating habits.

1.00 **News. 1.20 Thames news. 1.30 About Britain: The Japanese Way:** The wives and families of *Japanese* businessmen who have brought industry to Scotland talk to Michael Mulford about *how they have adapted to* Scottish life.

2.00 **Judi.** A new series of chat shows hosted by Judi Spiers. Her guests this afternoon include Willie Rushton and Martin, illusionist son of Paul Daniels. **2.30 *Falcon Crest.*** Julia pleads guilty to murder just to spite her mother. **3.30 Sons and Daughters.**

4.00 **Rainbow.** A repeat of the programme shown at 12.10. **4.20 Aubrey.** Comedy series *of an odd inventor (r).* **4.25 Emu's World.** Rod Hull and his erratic pet do battle with the nasty Grotbags and her *nephew Nauseus.* **4.50 The Fantastic Adventures of Mr Rossi. 5.15 The Young** *Doctors. Jill Gordon receives a* surprise when she meets her *mother's new lodger.*

5.45 **News. 6.00 The 6 O'Clock Show,** presented by Michael Aspel. A lighthearted look at London Life.

7.00 **The Zodiac Game.** Astrology fun with contestants joined by celebrities. Tom O'Connor is the host and the guests are Duggie Brown, John Junkin, Valerie Leon and Anneka Rice.

7.30 **Hardcastle and McCormick.** *Mark plays the role of a* student when he tries to find out if a man who was found *guilty of murder really was the* person responsible.

8.30 **Shroud for a Nightingale.** The final episode of the murder mystery set in a nurses' home. Dalgliesh discovers that the two murders are closely *connected with the deceased* arms dealer Martin Dettinger. But can he find enough evidence to arrest the resourceful killer? (Oracle titles page 170).

10.00 **News.**

10.30 **The London Programme** examines the chances of success of the government's *plans to abolish the Greater* London Council.

11.00 **Bosom Buddies.** American comedy series.

11.30 **South of Watford.** The latest news from London's entertainment scene with Ben Elton.

12.00 **Bizarre.** Unusual comedy series starring John Byner.

12.30 **Dragnet*.** Vintage American crime series starring Jack Webb as a Los Angeles police sergeant. Followed by **Night Thoughts.**

Nick Conway and Mark Aspinall, BBC 2, 10.00pm

CHOICE

● KEEP ON RUNNING (BBC 2, 10.00pm), *is set in a Manchester* boys' grammar school in the late 1960s. The period is important if you believe (and there are many sociologists who do) that changes in pop music taste are a reliable litmus test of the thought processes in the teenage mind. In 1967, there was an incitement to rebellion in the songs of Jimi Hendrix, and, in Andy Armitage's strong play, it falls sympathetically on the ear of a dissenting sixth-former who believes he has found an ally in the headmaster, Bert Parnaby, giving a tragi-comic performance of unusual depth as a man who has left it too late to stage his own personal revolution in a profession he despises because (he tells the boy, as they share whisky and cigarettes in his study) it symbolizes a retirement from living. It is a comment that foreshadows the play's shocking climax.

● THE BOAT PEOPLE: HAPPY LANDFALL? (BBC 2, 7.45pm) updates an earlier Harold Williamson report on *the Vietnamese refugees* whose plight, five years ago, was much in the headlines. They have since become the forgotten people, and tonight's film is an important memory-jogger. It shows that, when it came to absorbing the boat people into society, host nations like America got it right and Britain got it wrong. In the United States, the Vietnamese were instantly absorbed into community life, and most of them have prospered. In Britain, they were dispersed, made to feel isolated; at best, given menial jobs and, at worst, no jobs at all.

● It is a well-above-average night for movies, with Robert Hamer's elegant comedy about a mass murderer, KIND HEARTS AND CORONETS (BBC 2, 5.40pm) in which eight Alec Guinnesses almost equal a performance as subtle as that given by one Dennis Price; Jules Dassin's RIFIFI (BBC 2, 11.35pm) with its famous 25-minute, silent robbery sequence that Dassin could not improve upon 10 years later when he made *Topkapi*: and THE TRIALS OF OSCAR WILDE (BBC 1, 10.50pm) in which Peter Finch, as Wilde, assumed much extra weight as both man and actor.

Peter Davalle

BBC 2

6.05 **Open University: Maths Methods: Linear Equations.** 6.30 Perception: Cues and Schemes. 6.55 Exploring *Frequency Space. 7.20:* Chemistry: Spectroscopy. 7.45 Neurophysiology Ends at 8.10

9.00 **Ceefax.**

5.05 **Weekend Outlook.** *A preview of the Open University programmes to be seen in the next two days.*

5.10 **Field Geology: Arran.** An Open University production that follows a field trip to Arran *to discover how it is possible* for older rocks to overlay younger ones.

5.35 *News summary with subtitles.*

5.40 **Film: Kind Hearts and Coronets*** (1949) starring Alec *Guinness in eight priceless* roles as the D'Ascoyne family whose demise is sought by a distant cousin, Louis Mazzini who covets the title. Dennis Price plays the murderer with exquisite charm. A wonderful example of the best of Ealing comedies, directed by Robert Hamer.

7.20 **100 Great Sporting Moments.** Wimbledon 1973 when Britain's Roger Taylor met a 17-year old Swede playing in his first Wimbledon, in the quarterfinal. It may have been his first Wimbledon but Bjorn Borg had already attracted a *large and vociferous following* among the schoolgirls.

7.45 **The World About Us: The Boat People – Happy Landfall?** Five years after Harold Williamson reported on the plight of the Vietnamese Boat People he traces three of the 40,000 refugees to see what life had in store for them in the *West. Mr Williamson reports* from Britain, the United States and Belgium. (See Choice.)

8.35 **Gardeners' World** from the National Trust garden at Lanhydrock, Cornwall.

9.00 **M*A*S*H.** Hotlips and her nurses return from an evacuation of the 4077th to find the place in domestic chaos.

9.25 **Whicker!** Behind the scenes in politics is the subject and the guests are Antony Jay, Edna *Healey and Sir Geoffrey* Johnson Smith.

10.00 **Play: Keep on Running,** by Andy Armitage. The story, set in 1967, of two sixth form friends – one destined to be head boy, the other with an *urge to rebel. But the night of* the school dance has repercussions for the rebellious Alan as he *tries to* find a place to be alone with his date, Stephanie. (See Choice.)

10.50 *Newsnight.*

11.35 **Film: Rififi*** (1954) starring Jean Servais and Carl Mohner. The first showing on British television for this superb thriller about the planning and execution of a jewel robbery. *Directed by Jules Dassin.* Ends at 1.35.

CHANNEL 4

5.00 **Wayne and Shuster.** The Canadian comics take another wry look at the funny side of life.

5.30 **The Tube.** *Jools Holland and* Leslie Ash with another edition of the entertainment show. Film reviews and interviews plus guests live in the studio. These include The Cure and Joe Jackson making his first *appearance on British* television for two years. There is also a film feature on Paul Young who made his television debut on this programme.

7.00 **Channel Four News** with *Trevor MacDonald includes* a report from Nick Glass on the South African Theatre Company's production, Saturday Night at the Palace, opening at the Old Vic on Monday.

7.30 ***Right To Reply.*** *Paul McKee,* deputy chief executive of ITN replies to a viewer's charge that ITN News is not being impartial in its coverage of the dispute between the miners and the NCB.

8.00 **A Week in Politics** presented by Peter Jay. The programme includes items on the Data *Protection Bill with an* interview with David Waddington, minister of state at the Home Office; and Monday night's revolt by Tories over the political levy.

8.40 **What the Papers Say.** Simon *Winchester of The Sunday* Times casts his eye over what has been printed in Fleet Street, and beyond, this week.

9.00 **Agony.** Comedy series about a lonely hearts columnist who spends so much time sorting out other people's lives that she has no time to look after her own.

9.30 ***It Takes a Worried Man.*** *Peter* Tilbury stars in his own comedy about a man scared stiff of impending middle-age.

10.00 **Cheers.** American comedy series set in a Boston bar. This week tensions mount when a customer leaves the bar and its customers $100,000. How should they share the new-*found wealth?*

10.35 **Well Being** presented by Pam Armstrong and Dr Simon Small. The penultimate programme in the serious investigates Allergies – Facts and Fictions. A number of *allergies are examined and the* therapies recommended are questioned.

11.20 **The Late Clive James Show.** The first of a new series of topical chat shows. His first guest is the United States's pioneer feminist, Gloria Steinem.

12.20 **Jazz at the Gateway** with *Oscar Peterson and his trio.* His guest are the Eberhard Weber Quartet and the Alex Shaw Quintet.

1.00 **Closedown.**

Radio 4

6.00 News briefing; Weather. 6.10 Farming today. 6.25 Shipping.
6.30 Today, including 6.30, 7.30, 8.30 News. 6.45 Prayer. 6.55, 7.55 Weather. 7.00, 8.00 News. 7.25, 8.25 Sport. 7.45 Thought for Day. 8.35 Yesterday in Parliament. 8.50 Your Letters. 8.57 Weather.
9.00 News.
9.05 Desert Island Discs: Paul Tortelier (r).†
9.45 Feedback.
10.00 News; Science Now.
10.30 *Morning Story: "Gershwin" by* Judy Gardiner. Read by Cyril Shaps.
10.45 Daily Service.†
11.00 News; Travel; *A Power In All* Lands. John Roberts on the efforts of governments to come to terms with companies bigger than they are.
11.48 Natural Selection.
12.00 News; You and Yours.
12.27 My Music. Music panel game.†
1.00 The World At One: News.
1.40 The Archers. 1.55 Shipping.
2.00 News: Woman's Hour from Birmingham. The annual pilgrimage to Santiago de Compostela. and the final episode of the Birds Fall Down, by Rebecca West.
3.00 News; Our Mutual Friend by Charles Dickens, dramatised in ten parts (2).
4.00 News; Time For Verse.
4.10 Dead Men Do Tell Tales: Molly Price-Owen, aided by literary examples, discovers how forensic science can bring a criminal to book (1) Blood Sweat and Tears.
4.40 Story Time: "Futility" by William Gerhardie (5). Read by Roger Rees.
5.00 PM: News Magazine. 5.50 Shipping; 5.55 Weather.
6.00 The Six O'Clock News.
6.30 Going Places. The world of transport and travel.
7.00 News.
7.05 The Archers.
7.20 Pick of the week. Programme highlights with Margaret Howard.
8.20 Profile. A personal portrait.
8.45 Any Questions? from London. With Shirley Williams, Trevor Phillips, Lord Soper, Edwina Currie and Anthony Howard.
9.30 Letter from America by Alistair Cooke.
9.45 Kaleidoscope. Includes an interview with Dirk Bogarde about his new book West of Sunset.
10.15 A Book At Bedtime: "I'm Not Complaining" by Ruth Adam (5). *Read by Gwen Taylor.*
10.30 The World Tonight.
11.00 Today in Parliament.
11.15 The Financial World Tonight.
11.30 Week Ending. *A satirical review* of the week's news.
12.00 News. 12.10 Weather. 12.15 Close. Shipping Forecast. *ENGLAND: VHF as above except:* 6.25-6.30 Weather; Travel. 1.55-2.00 Listening Corner. 5.50-5.55 PM (continued). 11.00-12.00 Study On 4. 11.00 20th Century European Authors: Spanish. 11.30 20th Century European Authors: German.

Radio 3

6.55 Weather. 7.00 News.
7.05 Morning Concert: part one. Rossini's overture Thieving Magpie; Chopin's Andante spianato and Grande Polonaise brillante in E flat (Arrau/London Phil), Weber's Symphony No 1.† 8.00 News.
8.05 Morning Concert: part two. Elgar's overture In the South; arr Bridge Sir Roger de Coverley; William Baines's Paradise Gardens (Parkin, piano); Delius's Sleigh Ride; Arnold's Four Cornish Dances.† 9.00 News.
9.05 This Week's Composer: Spohr. The Septet in A minor Op 147, and the Deutschel Lieder, Op 103 (Donath/Donath/Dieter Klocker).†
10.00 Brahms Quartets: Orlando String Quartet play the Op 51 No 2.†
10.35 Ulster Orchestra: Haydn's Symph No 1; Alwyn's Concerto Grosso No 1; Delius's Summer Night on *the River; and Haydn's Symph No* 102.†
11.35 English Art Songs: recital by Wendy Eathorne (soprano) with *Geoffrey Parsons (piano).* Works by Ivor Gurney and Patrick Piggott.†
12.05 BBC Concert Orchestra in Bedford: part one. With Malcolm Binns (piano). Weber's overture Oberon; and Beethoven's Piano Concerto No 5.† 1.00 News.
1.05 Six Continents: Foreign radio broadcasts monitored by the BBC.
1.20 Concert: part two. Glazunov's ballet The Seasons.†
2.00 University of Wales Recital: John McCabe (piano) plays works by Haydn, Ravel (Miroirs), McCabe (Aubade, Study No 4) and Schubert. Interval reading at 2.50.†
4.00 Choral Evensong: from the Chapel of Magdalen College, Oxford. † 4.55 News.
5.00 Mainly for Pleasure: includes Mozart's Sonata in D K 448 for two pianos. Presented by David Hoult.†
6.30 Music for Guitar: Various artistes, at the 1983 Esztergom International Festival, play works by Torroba, Ida Presti, Sor, and Rodrigo.†
7.00 Poulenc: the Paris Orchestra play his Sinfonietta.†
7.30 De Saram Clarinet Trio: Beethoven's Trio in B flat Op 11; and Zemlinsky's Trio in D minor, Op 3. Part one.†
8.15 Poetry Now: Alan Brownjohn's selection includes works by Anna Adams, Kevin Crossley-Holland and John Latham.
8.15 De Saram Clarinet Trio: part two. Gordon Crosse's Trio (Rhymes and Reasons).†
9.25 Digging Graves: The architect Michael Graves, whose art-deco inspired designs have been attracting international attention, in conversation with Stephen Games. Graves is a professor at Princeton University.
10.05 Music for Voice and Organ: *Cazzati's In Calvaria Rupe; and* Stephen Dodgson's The Tower (first broadcast performance). The performers: Mark Rowlinson (baritone) and Stephen Cleobury (organ).†
10.35 The Symphonies of Michael Tippett: The BBC SO (Brian Wright conducting) play the Symphony No 1 (1945).†
11.15 News. Until 11.18.

VHF only: Open University. 6.35am-6.55 *Hume's Science of* Man: and 11.20pm-11.40 The Mature Learner.

Radio 2

4.00am Colin Berry.† 5.30 Ray Moore.† 7.30 Terry Wogan (incl 8.31 Racing. 10.00 Jimmy Young.† 12.00pm Steve Jones, (incl 1.05 Sport. 2.00 Gloria *Hunniford*, (incl 2.02; 3.02 Sport. 3.30 Music all the Way.† 4.00 David Hamilton, (incl 4.02; 5.05 Sport. 6.00 John Dunn, (incl 6.02 Sport. 6.45 Sport. 7.30 Friday Night is Music Night (from Winter Gardens, Margate).† 8.20-8.40 Interval. Tony Barnfield in Margate. 9.30 The Organist Entertains. 9.55 Sport. 10.00 Vince Hill's Solid Gold Music Show.† 10.30 Sounds of the South West. 5: Dorset and Hampshire 11.00 Stuart Hall (stereo from midnight). 1.00am Peter Dickson presents Nightride. † 3.00-4.00 Night Owls with Dave Gelly.†

Radio 1

6.00am Mark Page. 7.00 Mike Read. 9.00 Simon Bates. 11.30 Gary Davies, incl 12.30 Newsbeat. 2.00 Adrian John. 4.30 Select-a-Disc with Janice Long. 5.30 Newsbeat. 5.45 Roundtable. 7.00 Andy Peebles. 9.00-12.00 The Friday Rock Show (stereo from 10.00). VHF Radios 1 and 2: 4.00am With Radio 2. 10.00pm With Radio 1. 12.00-4.00 With Radio 2.

WORLD SERVICE

6.00 Newsdesk. 6.30 *Pageant of the Past.* 7.00 World News. 7.09 Twenty-Four Hours. 7.30 Patrick Merryn's Music Box. 7.45 Merchant Navy Programme. 8.00 World News. 8.09 Reflections. 8.15 Singers and Singing. 8.30 A Month in a Monastery. 9.00 World News. 9.09 Review of the British Press. 9.15 The World Today. 9.30 Financial News. 9.40 Look Ahead. 9.45 Album Time. 10.15 Merchant Navy Programme. 11.00 *World News.* 11.09 News About Britain. 11.15 In the Meantime. 11.25 Ulster Newsletter. 11.30 Meridian. 12.00 Radio Newsreel. 12.15 Jazz for the Asking. 12.45 Sports Roundup. 1.00 World News. 1.09 Twenty Four Hours. 1.30 Mourning Becomes Electra. 2.15 Letterbox. 2.30 John Peel. 3.00 Radio Newsreel. 3.15 Outlook. 4.00 World News. 4.09 Commentary. 4.15 Science in Action. 8.00 World News. 8.09 Twenty-Four hours. 8.30 The Marvellous Girl. 9.00 Network U.K. 9.15 Music Now. 9.30 The Bach Family. 9.45 The Great Brown Pericord Motor. 10.00 World News. 10.09 The World Today. 10.25 Book Choice. 10.30 Financial News. 10.40 Reflections. 10.45 Sports Roundup. 11.00 World News. 11.09 Commentary. 11.15 From the Weeklies. 11.30 Peter Hall. 12.00 World News. 12.09 *News about Britain.* 12.15 Radio Newsreel. 12.30 About Britain. 1.15 Outlook. 1.45 Classical Record Review. 2.00 World News. 2.09 Review of the British Press. 2.15 Network U.K. 2.30 People and Politics. 3.00 World News. 3.09 News About Britain. 3.15 The World Today. 3.30 The Mutiny of HMS Bounty. 4.45 Financial News. 4.55 Reflections. 5.00 World News. 5.09 Review of the British Press. 5.15 About Britain. 5.40 Book Choice. 5.45 The World Today.

All times in GMT

BBC 1 Wales: 12.57-1.00pm News. 3.53-3.55 News. 5.55 Wales Today. 9.25-10.15 Wales! Wales? 10.15-10.30 Sportfolio. 10.30-11.00 Union Man. (Ken Harris, treasurer of the Welsh Rugby Union). 11.00-11.50 Starsky and Hutch. 11.51-1.42am Film: The Strange Love of Martha Ivers (Barbara Stanwyck). Scotland: 12.55-1.00pm News. 5.55 Sixty Minutes. 9.25-9.55 Agenda. 9.55-10.27 Beechgrove Garden. 10.27-10.30 News. 10.30-11.40 Starsky and Hutch. 11.40-1.20am Film: Pursued (Robert Mitchum): Northern Ireland: 12.57-1.00pm News. 3.53-3.55 News. 5.55 Scene Around Six. 10.15-10.45 Spotlight. 10.45-10.50 News. 10.50-12.50am Film: The Strange Love of Marta Ivers (Barbara Stanwyck). 12.50 News. England: 10.15 East – Weekend. Midlands – Midlands Tonight. North – Gardeners' Direct Line. North East – Coast to Coast. North West – "Where to we go from here?". South – "Moments". South West – News Watch Special. West – Village School, 12.55am Close.

S4C 2.20 Stori Sbri. 2.35 Interval. 2.55 Jack's Game. 3.20 The Making of Britain. 3.50 Gardener's Calendar. 4.15 Countdown. 5.00 Sbri Calwydd Golau. 5.30 The Tube. 7.00 Newyddion Saith. 7.30 Taro Tant. 8.00 Pobol Y Cwm. 8.30 Y Byd Yb-Ey Le. News Headlines. 9.15 Cheers. 9.45 Soap. 10.15 Caught in a Free State. 11.10 The Lady is a Tramp. 11.40 If they'd asked for a Lion Tamer. 12.40 Close.

TVS As London except: starts 9.25-9.30 Farming Brief. 10.25 Film: Broadway Limited* (Victor McLaglen). *11.45-12.00 The Little Rascals.* 1.20 TVS News. 1.30 Afternoon Club. 1.35 About Britain. 2.10 Film: I Only Arsked (Bernard Bresslaw). 3.45-4.00 Sprtsbreak. *5.15-5.45 Take the High* Road. 6.00 Coast to Coast. 6.30 The Friday Sportshow. 7.00 The Fall Guy. 8.00-8.30 The Zodiac Game. 10.30 Newhart. 11.00 Showcase. 11.15 Film: Black Torment (Heather Sears). 12.50am Company, Closedown.

REGIONAL TELEVISION VARIATIONS

CHANNEL As London except: 1.20 Channel news. 2.00 Film: Cheaper by the Dozen. 3.58 Puffin's Pla(i)ce. 5.15 Emmerdale Farm. 6.00 Channel Report. 6.30 Crossroads: 6.55 What's on Where. 10.35 Sidmouth, Folk Festival. 11.05 Film: Creeping Flesh. 12.40 News and Weather in French. Closedown.

BORDER As London except: 10.25 The Sinbad Voyage. 11.15 *Natural Environment.* 11.30 Train Spot. 11.55-12.00 Cartoon. 1.20-1.30 Border News. 2.30 Q.E.D.: Target London. 3.30-4.00 The Young Doctors. 5.15-5.45 *Diff'rent Strokes. 6.00 Lookaround* Friday. 6.30-7.00 Look Who's Talking. 10.30 Newhart. 11.00 Rugby League: St Helens v Leigh: 11.55 The Two of Us. *12.25 News Summary.* 12.28 Closedown.

GRANADA As London except: *starts 9.25 Atom Ant.* 9.30 Sport Billy. 9.55 The Groovie Ghoulies. 10.20 Unicorn Tales. 10.40 The Incredible World of Adventure. *11.00-12.00 Hopalong Cassidy.* 12.30-1.00 At Ease. 1.00-1.20 Granada Reports. 1.30 On the Market. 2.00 Film: Watusi (George Montgomery). 3.30-4.00 *The Young Doctors. 5.15-5.45 The* Zodiac Game. 6.00 Granada Reports, news. 6.05 Weekend. 7.00 The Fall Guy. 8.00-8.30 In Loving Memory. 10.30 9 to 5. 11.00 Rugby League: St Helens v Leigh. 11.55 Film: The Other Side of Fear (Karen Black). 1.5 Closedown.

SCOTTISH As London except: 10.25 Nova. 11.20 Abigail. 11.30 Diff'rent Strokes. 11.55-12.00 Towser. 1.20-1.30 Scottish News. 2.00-4.00 Film: Scared Stiff* (Martin and Lewis). 5.15-5.45 Emmerdale Farm. 6.00 Scotland Today. 6.30 Sports Extra. 6.45-7.00 Hear Here. 10.35 Ways and Means. 11.05 Hill Street Blues. 12.05 Late Call. 12.10 Astronauts. 12.35 Closedown.

GRAMPIAN As London except: starts *9.25-9.30 First* Thing. 10.25 Laurel and Hardy. 10.50 The Sinbad Voyage. 11.55-12.00 Hallas and Bachelor Cartoon. 1.20-1.30 North News. 2.00-2.30 Strange But True. 3.30-4.00 The Young Doctors. 5.15-5.45 Survival. 6.00 North Tonight. 10.30 Crossfire. 11.00 Hill Street Blues. 12.00 Making A Living. 12.30 North Headlines and Weather. 12.35 Closedown.

YORKSHIRE As London except: Starts *9.25-9.30* Weather. 10.25 The Denali Wilderness. 10.50 European Folk Tales. 11.05 Tarzan. 11.50-12.00 Melotoons. 1.20-1.30 Calendar News. 2.00-3.30 Film: Decoy (Edward Judd). 5.15-5.45 The Zodiac Game. 6.00 Calendar. 7.00 The Fall Guy. 8.00-8.30 In Loving Memory.– 10.30 Talking of Sport. 11.00 Rugby League: St Helen's v Leigh. 11.55 Mannix. 12.50 Closedown.

TSW *As London except: 10.25* Space 1999. 11.15 European Folk Tales. 11.30 Hands. 11.55 The Wonderful Stories of Professor Kitzel. *1.20 TSW News Headlines. 2.00 Film:* Cheaper by the Dozen (Clifton Webb). 3.57 Gus Honeybun's Magic Birthdays. 5.15 Emmerdale Farm. 6.00 Today *South West. 6.30 What's Ahead.* 10.35 Sidmouth Folk. 11.05 Film: The Creeping Flesh (Christopher Lee). *12.40* Postscript. 12.45 Weather and *Closedown.*

TYNE TEES As London except: Starts 9.25 North East News. 10.25 The Nature of Things. 11.20 Vicky The Viking. 11.45 Larry The Lamb. 1.20 North East News. 2.00 Film: The Night We Dropped a Clanger. 5.15 Diff'rent Strokes. 6.00 North East News. 6.02 The Zodiac Game. 6.30 Northern Life. 7.00 The Fall Guy. 8.00 In Loving Memory. 10.32 Film: Corridors of Blood (Boris Karloff). 12.00 Film: Devils of Darkness (William Sylvester). 1.30 Three's Company.

HTV WEST As London except: 10.25 Jump. 10.40 The Protectors. 11.10-12.00 The Spirit of Malcolm Miller. 1.20-1.30 HTV News. 2.00 *Film: Wedding Night** (Gary Cooper). 3.30-4.00 The Young Doctors. 5.15-5.45 Joanie Loves Chachi. 6.00 HTV News. 6.30-7.00 In the Garden. 10.30 The Good Neighbour Show. 11.00 Film: Assassin (Ian Hendry). 12.25 Weather, Closedown.

HTV WALES As HTV West except: 6.00-7.00 Wales at Six. 10.30-12.30 Film: Chuka (Rod Taylor). 12.30 Weather, Closedown.

ANGLIA As London except: 10.25 Cartoon Time. 10.40 Spread Your Wings. 11.05 Tarzan (rpt). 11.55 Wattoo Wattoo. 1.20 Anglia News. 2.00 Film: The Mouse That Roared (Peter Sellers). 5.15 University Challenge. 6.00 About Anglia. 10.30 Cross Question. 11.05 Film: Deadfall (Michael Caine). 1.15 Jancis Harvey Sings.

ULSTER As London except: starts 9.25 The Day Ahead. 10.25 Sport Billy. 10.50 Cartoon Time. 11.05 *Laurel and Hardy. 11.30 3-2-1 Contact.* 1.20 Lunchtime. 2.30 Film: The Intruder (Jack Hawkins). 3.58 Ulster News. 5.15 Happy Days. 6.00 Good Evening Ulster. 6.45 Advice. 7.30 The Irish RM. 10.30 Witness. 10.35 The Race Is On. 11.05 Magnum. 12.00 News.

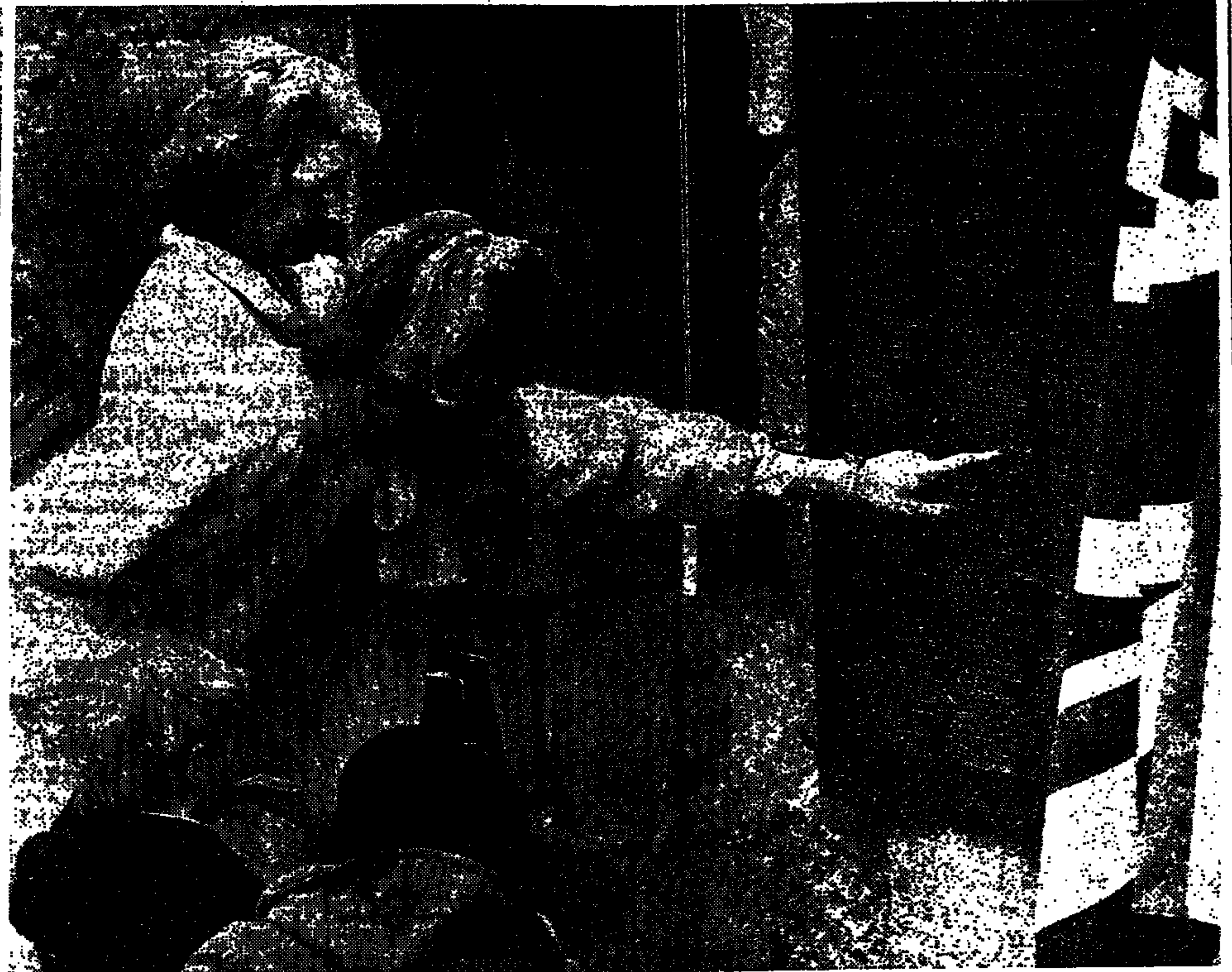
CENTRAL As London except: starts 9.25 3-2-1 Contact. 9.55 Once Upon A Time . . . Man. 10.20 Bracken. 11.10-12.00 The Road to Los Angeles. 1.20 Central News. 1.30-3.30 Film: Stella Dallas* (Barbara Stanwyck). 5.15-5.45 The Zodiac Game. 6.00 Central News. 7.00 The Fall Guy. 8.00-8.30 In Loving Memory. 10.35 The Sweeney. 11.35 Film: Life At The Top* (Laurence Harvey). 1.45 Closedown.

WHAT THE SYMBOLS MEAN.
† Stereo. ★Black and white. (r) Repeat.

REQUENCIES: Radio 1 MF 1053kHz/285m or 1089kHz/275m. Radio 2 MF 693kHz/433m or 909kHz/330m. Radio 1/2 VHF 88-91MHz. Radio 3 VHF -92.5MHz, MF 1215kHz/247m. Radio 4 LF 200kHz/1500m and VHF 92-95MHz. Greater London Area MF 720kHz/417m. LBC MF 1152kHz/261m, VHF 97.3MHz. Capital MF 1548kHz/194m, VHF 95.8MHz. BBC Radio London MF 1458kHz/206m and VHF 94.9MHz. World Service MF 8kHz/463m.

Entertainments





Falklands memories: Michael Robinson-Moltke waiting with his mother for the unveiling. Afterwards (right), Mrs Robinson-Moltke showed the boy his father's engraved name

MI5 officer to face 10 charges

Continued from page 1

The charges will be read to Mr Bettaney when he appears in Court Number One before the Lod Chief Justice, Lord Lane, on Tuesday. They will be outlined by Sir Michael Havers, the Attorney General, at the start of an opening speech, of which only a third will be heard in public.

The court has already decided to hear almost the entire case *in camera*. The proceedings will not be reopened until a verdict has been reached.

The jury is to be vetted but the Attorney General has told Mr Stuart Bell, Labour MP for Middlesbrough, that the vetting will not be based on political, peace movement or industrial grounds.

Callaghan not told of police guns purchase

Continued from page 1

"At 4.40, the Secretary of the Cabinet telephoned". Mr Callaghan said. "He too, I thought, sounded slightly embarrassed. He said the decision had been taken in August, 1976 to authorize a small number of weapons of the anti-terrorist type. There was a fair amount of potential terrorist activity at the time.

"I asked whether the matter had been considered by the Cabinet, and he replied: 'No'. I asked if it had been considered by Cabinet committee, and again he replied: 'No'. I asked him if the matter had been referred to me, and again the answer was 'No'."

Mrs Thatcher had been shown none of the papers of the previous administration. She had learned of the Labour decision from a report in the *Daily Mail* on February 16, 1979.

Mr Callaghan said that as it had been a decision taken by his administration, when he had been Prime Minister, he formally accepted responsibility.

Mr Merlyn Rees, who succeeded Mr Jenkins as Home Secretary in September, 1976, said last night that he had been aware that the Metropolitan Police had a small number of weapons in store.

But he distinguished between the use of such weapons in a set-piece confrontation with terrorists and members of the diplomatic protection squad carrying sub-machine guns with them on the streets of London.

● Scotland Yard confirmed yesterday that a small number of conventional sub-machine guns were bought in 1976 (Stewart Tendler writes).

According to a senior police source, about a dozen weapons were bought and are kept in the police armoury. They have never been issued.

About turn gives new ILEA direct elections

By Colin Hughes

Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Education and Science, yesterday announced that direct elections would be held for the new Inner London Education Authority.

His statement in the Commons amounts to a Government about turn, and followed a decision taken at yesterday morning's Cabinet meeting.

In the White Paper entitled *Streamlining the Cities* published last October the Government proposed replacing ILEA with a joint board of nominees from the inner London boroughs.

The proposals were met by widespread opposition, including Conservative ILEA members and MPs, who said it would undermine accountability and lead to less-competent councillors

The existing authority has 48 members elected in Greater London Council constituencies and from London boroughs.

Sir Keith said that the detailed plans for direct elections would be contained in the main legislation, being presented to the next parliamentary session, to abolish the GLC and six metropolitan county councils.

It is unlikely that direct election machinery could be instituted in time to hold elections in 1985. More probably elections will be held in May 1986, with two members from each inner London parliamentary constituency being elected, making a total of 58 members.

At the heart of the arguments persuading the Government to switch tack is the belief that a directly elected inner London authority for education would not necessarily produce a replica of the existing left-wing Labour-majority.

Daffodil tribute to a sailor

A boy aged five clutched a bunch of daffodils yesterday to lay at the memorial to his father killed in the Falklands.

Michael Robinson-Moltke was three when his father, Glen, became, as a lieutenant-commander, the most senior man to die in the conflict.

Mrs Christine Robinson-Moltke, of Petersfield, Hampshire, said: "Michael remembers everthing about his father

The memorial to 130 seafaring men was unveiled at Old Portsmouth.

The inscription reads: "This memorial is dedicated to the members of the Royal Navy, the Royal Marines, the Royal Fleet Auxiliary and Merchant Navy, whose names are recorded here. They gave their lives in the service of this country and for the defence of freedom, in the Falklands Islands and the South Atlantic 1982."

Letter from Banjul

Where diplomats jostle with goats

One of the more ridiculous legacies of Africa's colonial past is the fact that the former British colony of The Gambia slices through the middle of the former French colony of Senegal, some might say like a thorn in its side, effectively cutting Senegal in two. The Gambia river, along whose banks The Gambia's frontiers were drawn, completes the division.

Travellers up or down the west coast, tempted to dismiss a tiny strip of land full of English-speaking Africans in the midst of a great chunk of Francophone Africa, should think again: a relatively simple journey to The Gambia or through Senegal can be turned into an adventure or nightmare, depending on one's attitude to life, simply by trying to cross the river.

Just the mention of The Gambia River ferry to those in the know will bring forth endless stories, and few of them are reassuring. The main ferry, famous for its unpredictability, runs across the wide mouth of the river between Barra on the north bank and the Gambian capital, Banjul, on the south bank.

The ferry dockside itself is an unlovely place. A high, rust iron-barracade separates passengers from ferry. The question of being allowed through is a delicate one, involving the right approach and jollity of expression. Advice is given by people lounging nearby . . . "Psst . . . give them some money".

The wait for the ferry in the hot sun is enlivened by hawkers who besiege their captive victims like flies around food. As the ferry docks the bargaining begins in earnest to ensure a place for the car. Passengers on foot, meanwhile, push through the turnstiles and rush to get on board.

The ferry is a great leveller. Men, women, children, chickens, goats, horses, cars, lorries, boxes, beds and bundles are all shoved on board and left to sort themselves out. Ambassadors travelling from Senegal to the Gambia, where they are also accredited, find themselves in the same boat as the Gambian farmer with livestock who is crossing because he has to get to the other side.

One Western diplomat is jumping up and down on the quayside flashing his personal summons from the Gambian President and demanding to be let on board. The ferry officials shrug their shoulders and laugh: the boat is full. Suddenly the ferry captain, obeying some inward call that was nothing to do with what's going on on shore, decides to leave. Two men loading sacks of rice are caught in mid-load. The sack makes it, but one man is left on shore, as is the enraged diplomat. His chauffeur had edged the Mercedes on to the rim of the ferry, and its front wheels are left hanging over the water.

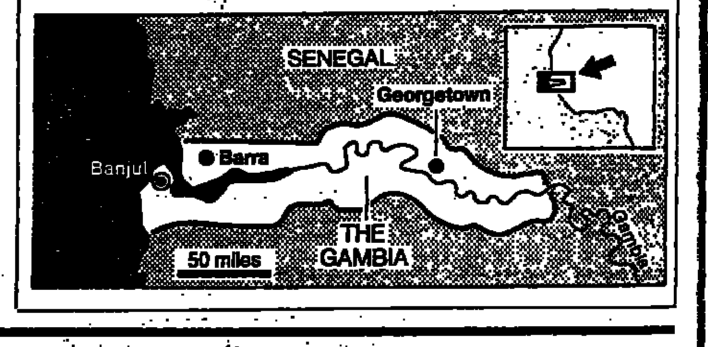
The boat is full to bursting, but no barrier is placed across the ends to prevent people from toppling into the water. The journey takes just under an hour.

Boys move round the crowded deck selling towels, dusters, shoe polish, soap and cloth for suits. Others sell soft drinks and hard-boiled eggs, which are shelled and salted on purchase.

Down below, Gambians and Sencgalese pass the time chatting in their tribal languages.

For some, crossing the river is a colourful adventure; for others, it is a hassle and waste of time. Cement pylons can still be seen sticking out of the water on the shoreline, a testimony to the bridge that was nearly built and remains a project. No doubt a costly suspension bridge would solve the problem: but would travellers be so aware of the tiny country's presence if they did not have to be ferried across the Gambia River?

Susan MacDonald



THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Today's events

Royal engagements

The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh visit The Queen's Flight at Royal Air Force Benson, Oxfordshire, 11.15.

The Duchess of Kent takes the Salute at the Sovereign's Parade at the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst, Berkshire, 10.37.

New exhibitions

Ten new paintings by Tess Jaray, Whitworth Art Gallery, University of Manchester, Whitworth Park, Oxford Road; Mon to Sat 10 to 5, Thurs 10 to 9, closed Sun (until July 28).

Paintings by Pamela Derry and Ron Jesty, two exhibitions at the Blake Gallery, Georges Lane, Crewkerne, Somerset; Tues to Sat 10 to 4, closed Sun and Mon (until April 21).

Exhibitions in progress

Crafts for the Modern Interior, emphasis on the use of crafted pieces in the modern environment, Scottish Craft Centre, 140 Canongate, **Edinburgh**; Mon to Sat 10 to 5.30, closed Sun (until April 28).

Works by Victorine Foot and Bill Wright Scottish Gallery, 94 George Street, **Edinburgh**; Mon to Fri 9 to 5.30, Sat 9 to 1, closed Sun (until May 2).

Images – works by Michelle Willett, **Chelmsford** and Essex Museum, Oaklands Park, Moulsham St; Mon to Sat 10 to 5, Sun 2 to 5 (until April 29).

Freshwater Biological Association, Dorset County Museum, High St West, **Dorchester**; Mon to Fri 10 to 5, Sat 10 to 1 and 2 to 5, closed Sun (until April 30).

Paintings by Kirsty Gibbs, Open Eye Gallery, 75 Cumberland St, **Edinburgh**; Mon to Fri 10 to 6, Sat 10 to 4, closed Sun (until April 19).

Music

Concert by Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra, Wyvern Theatre, **Swindon**, 7.30

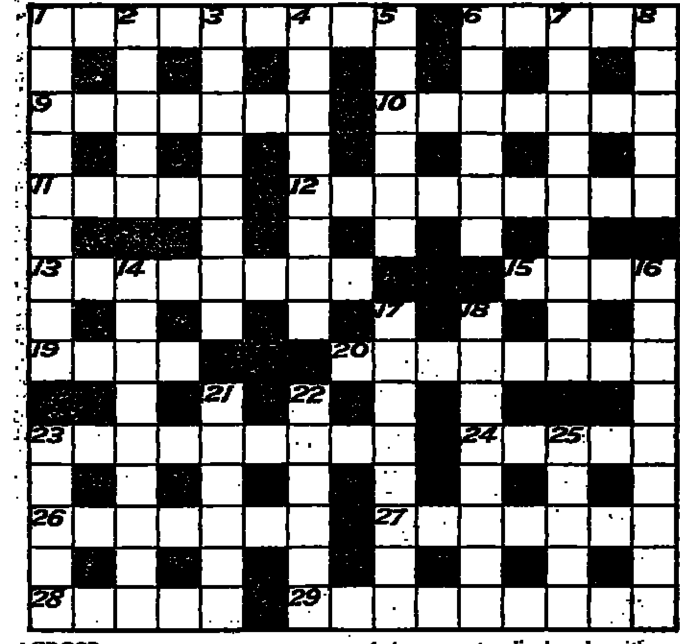
Concert by Midlands Big Band with Robert Young, City Hall, Barkers Pool, **Sheffield**, 7.30.

Concert by Musica Antiquan of London, Bluecoat, School Lane, **Liverpool**, 7.30.

Recital by Robert Wyn (flute) and Imogen Barford (harp), Pallant House Gallery, **Chichester**, 7.30.

Concert by The Hallé Orchestra, Royal Concert Hall, **Nottingham**, 7.30.

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 16,398



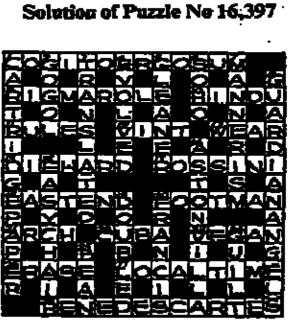
ACROSS

1 Interrupting in the governing body with a point is stupid (9).
6 Press agency gets nothing from poet (5).
9 Derby, for example, is unromantic but extremely important (7).
10 It should give total protection for the worker (7).
11 Chief measure used in line-drawing (5).
12 Margaret is old-fashioned and a misfit (6.3).
13 US standard secondhand gyro – could be about a pound (3,5).
15 Unused sauce (4).
19 Waistband for light frame? (4).
20 Bits of paper etc., if not collected, are found after the match (8).
23 You or I, for example, go to church to make declaration (9).
24 The Educational Supplement is in type (3,2).
26 Reunite somehow children of mixed parentage (7).
27 Worst right back, once high-class centre (7).
28 In his market supplies are cheap and plentiful (5).
29 Company has no existence in this group (9).

DOWN

1 Fashionable scoundrel covers debit-vouchers – how careless! (9).
2 Place to sit or stand in the market (5).
3 Respirators supplied, naturally! (8).
4 Any crest, displayed with a difference, indicates ancient lineage (8).
5 Book departure from Egypt (6).
6 Speculation caused by the opening of overhead railway (6).
7 Siamese coat-maker gets a tip (4-5).
8 Old convict's German prison (5).
14 What Scott found in the Thames? (9).
16 Dockers' cut can be a bit of a fiddle (9).
17 Member of a society – the Woodworkers? (8).
18 The side's hero, maybe, though all at sea (8).
21 Mimic Bobby? That's right! (6).
22 Put money into a modish waistcoat (6).
23 Sound and true (5).
25 Dance-beat followed with vigour (5).

Solution of Puzzle No 16,397



Prize Crossword in The Times tomorrow
CONCISE CROSSWORD PAGE 10

Parliament today

Commons (9.30) Private Member's Bill: Child Abduction Bill, report and third reading. Immigration Offences (Amendment) Bill, second reading.

Anniversaries

Deaths: **Raphael**, Rome, 1520; **Albrecht Dürer**, Nürnberg, Germany, 1528; **John Stow**, antiquary, author of *Survey of London*, London, 1605; **Edwin Arlington Robinson**, poet, New York, 1935.

Commander Robert Peary and **Matthew Henson** reached the North Pole, 1909. United States declared war on Germany, 1917.

Space track

The lastest Challenger space shuttle is due to be launched at 14.58 BST today. Link up with live conversation between the five-man crew and mission control by dialling 010-1-900-410-6272. The service is available until April 12 when the shuttle is due to return.

Lifeboat month

The Royal National Lifeboat Institution is to benefit from the Safeway Charity Month in April. Money raised will go towards building the new £430,000 Tyen Class lifeboat. Each store will be organizing fund raising special events.

Health tonic

The Government announced last night that holidaymakers and others visiting Common Market countries using the E111 form, which entitles people to medical treatment under state health schemes, will get cover extended from one visit to all treatment for two years. But the bureaucratic breakthrough will not take effect until September 1.

Food prices

It is estimated that about 2.6 million turkeys will be sold during the Easter holiday. Shoppers are advised to order fresh turkey in advance to ensure getting the size they require. If you opt for a frozen bird, give it enough time to thaw completelny before cooking.

Cattle prices at market rose yesterday but retail prices showed no change apart from topside and silverside which may be a penny a pound more. The range is £1.89 to £2.30 a pound. Forerib on bone ranges from £1.25 to £1.65 a pound and fillet steak £3.50 to £4.50. Home produced lamb continues to rise and this shows on whole leg and loin chops which range from £1.56 to £1.99 and £1.72 to £2.44 a pound respectively.

New Zealand lamb leg and shoulder joints are unchanged since last week but loin chops are up about 2p a pound and best end chops are down about 2p a pound. Whole leg of pork cost between 86p and £1.26 and loin chops from £1.20 to £1.44 a pound.

Fish supplies are slightly better than last week with plaice and dover sole a bit cheaper, fresh haddock £1.40 to £1.60 the best buy. Some good buys are Sainsbury's whole leg of New Zealand lamb for £1.19, Safeway whole shoulder 56p a pound. Bejam Danefrost grade A roasting chicken 45p a pound.

The first of the English purple sprouting broccoli is in the shops at about 35p a pound. English Cape broccoli 50p to 70p a pound and spring greens 28p to 35p a pound are good buys.

Home grown potatoes are 14p to 20p a pound and are up by a penny a pound and Egyptian new King Edwards may be 4p a pound more than last week. Aubergines are a lot cheaper at 45p to 70p a pound.

Lettuce 20p to 28p and cucumber 25p to 45p are more plentiful. Chinese leaves are 35p to 45p a pound. There are good quality Spanish beef tomatoes at 50p to 60p a pound and English and Dutch hothouse salad tomatoes from 70p to 90p a pound. EY

The pound

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	1.60	1.52
Austria Sch	27.50	25.90
Belgium Fr	82.00	78.00
Canada $	1.88	1.81
Denmark Kr	14.30	13.60
Finland Mkk	8.32	7.92
France Fr	11.86	11.36
Germany DM	3.86	3.68
Greece Dr	158.00	148.00
Hongkong $	11.55	10.95
Ireland Pt	1.27	1.21
Italy Lira	2390.00	2290.00
Japan Yen	334.00	318.00
Netherlands Gld	4.38	4.16
Norway Kr	11.28	10.68
Portugal Esc	195.00	185.00
South Africa Rd	1.96	1.82
Spain Pta	217.00	206.00
Sweden Kr	11.58	11.00
Switzerland Fr	3.22	3.05
USA $	1.47	1.42
Yugoslavia Dnr	183.00	173.00

Rates for small denomination bank notes only, as supplied yesterday by Barclays Bank International Ltd. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques and other foreign currency business.
Retail Price Index: 344.0

London: The *FT* Index closed up 9.2 at 867.0.

Roads

North: M6: Between junctions 20 and 21, at Thelwall Viaduct, Cheshire, lanes closed on both sides. **A54:** (Cheshire) between A49 and Winsford, drainage work, various locations, traffic lights. **A180:** (Humberside) Brigg to Ulceby section, repairs to both carriageways between Barnetby intersection and Harbrough, contra flow.

Wales and West: M4: Lane closures for bridge inspection and repairs between juncion 21 and 22 across the Severn Bridge, both carriageways affected, also off peak overnight closures. **A381/A385:** In Totnes, temporary traffic lights at Brutus/Bridgetown Hill. **A361:** (Somerset) temporary traffic signals north-east of Taunton.

SCOTLAND: M73: Lighting column installations, lane closures on both carriageways between junctions 1 and 2. **M91:** Southbound inside lane closed at junction 11 for patching. **A726:** (Renfrewshire) bridge construction and road realignment at Barnsford Bridge, north of M8 (junction 29), single lane traffic with lights as required.

The papers

The *Daily Star* says that the lesson to be drawn from the Commons Select Committee on Foreign Affairs report into the invasion of Grenada is that: "Countries usually end up doing what they believe to be in their own interests – whatever their friends and partners think, and whether they consult them or not. Finer feelings are not high on any nation's list of priorities when the crunch comes. It's worth remembering.

£10,000 bonds

The £10,000 Premium Bond winners in April are: **16AF 612425:** (the winner lives in Camden, London); **9LL 049509:** (Berkshire); **3NN 724888:** (Essex); **1PF 712283:** (Preston); **1QN 829943:** (Edinburgh).

Top films

The top box-office films in London:
1 (1) Terms of Endearment
2 (–) Yentl
3 (3) Champions
4 (9) Educating Rita
5 (2) To Be or Not to be
6 (4) Uncommon Valour
7 (5) The Dresser
8 (7) Trading Places
9 (8) Carmen
10 (10) La Balance

The top films in the provinces
1 Terms of Endearment
2 Educating Rita
3 La Traviata
4 Christine
5 To Be or Not To Be

Supplied by *Screen International*

Top video rentals

1 (2) Flashdance
2 (1) Raiders of the Lost Ark
3 (4) Halloween III
4 (3) Octopussy
5 (8) The Verdict
6 (9) Young Doctors in Love
7 (6) The Entity
8 (17) Blue Thunder
9 (18) The Dark Crystal
10 (11) The Clinic

Compiled by *Video Business*

Weather forecast

Pressure will be high to the W but low in the E with a trough of low pressure near the E coasts.

6 am to midnight

London, SE England, Channel Islands: Mainly cloudy, outbreaks of rain, winds NW light to moderate, max temp 8C (46F).

E Anglia, E, NE England, Borders, Edinburgh, Dundee, Aberdeen, Orkney, Shetland: Mainly cloudy, outbreaks of rain, winds mainly N, light to moderate, max temp 7C (45F).

Cen S, cen N England, Midlands: A little rain at first, sunny or clear intervals developing, winds NW mainly light, max temp 8C (46F).

SW England, Wales: Sunny or clear periods, rather cloudy at times in the W, frosty early and late, winds NW light, max temp 10C (50F).

NW England, Lake District, Isle of Man, SW Scotland, Glasgow: Mainly dry and sunny, frosty early and late, winds NW light, max temp 8C (46F).

Cen Highlands, Moray Firth, NE, NW Scotland, Argyll, N Ireland: Rain or drizzle in places, some hill fog, brighter at times, winds N light or moderate, max temp 9C (48F).

Outlook for the weekend: Little change.

SEA PASSAGES: S North Sea: Wind variable light, occasional rain, visibility moderate with fog banks, sea smooth. *Straits of Dover and English Channel (E):* Wind NW, light or moderate, occasional rain, visibility moderate locally poor, sea smooth or slight. **St Georges Channel and Irish Sea:** Wind variable light mainly N, showers, visibility moderate with fog patches, sea smooth.

Sun rises: 6.25 am | Sun sets: 7.43 pm
Moon rises: 12.21 am | Moon sets: 8.36 pm
First quarter: April 9

Lighting-up time

London 8.13 pm to 5.52 am
Bristol 8.22 pm to 6.02 am
Edinburgh 8.32 pm to 5.58 am
Manchester 8.24 pm to 5.58 am
Penzance 8.32 pm to 6.18 am

Yesterday

Temperatures at midday yesterday: c, cloud; s, sun; f, fair.

		C	F			C	F
Belfast	c	7	45	Guernsey	c	8	46
Birmingham	c	5	41	Inverness	c	6	43
Blackpool	s	7	45	Jersey	s	9	48
Bristol	c	6	43	London	s	8	46
Cardiff	f	6	43	Manchester	s	8	46
Edinburgh	c	6	43	Newcastle	c	4	39
Glasgow	c	6	43	Ronaldsway	s	6	43

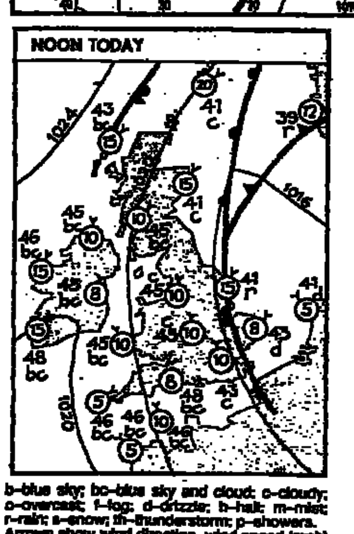
London

Yesterday: Temp: max 6am to 6pm, 8C (46F); min 6pm to 6am, 2C (36F). Humidity: 6pm, 64 per cent. Rain: 24hr to 6pm, nil. Sun: 24hr to 6pm, 0.2hr. Bar, mean sea level: 6pm, 1,016.8 millibars, steady.
1,000 millibars = 29.53in.

Highest and lowest

Yesterday: Highest day temp: Weymouth, 12C (54F); lowest day max: Lowestoft, 5C (41F); highest rainfall: Manston, 0.15in; highest sunshine: Tynemouth, 10.6hr.

NOON TODAY Pressure is shown in millibars FRONTS Warm Cold Occluded Symbols are on advancing edge



b-blue sky; bc-blue sky and cloud; c-cloudy; o-overcast; f-fog; d-drizzle; h-hail; m-mist; r-rain; s-snow; th-thunderstorm; p-showers. Arrows show wind direction, wind speed (mph) circled. temperatures fahrenheit.

High tides

TODAY

	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	5.26	6.9	5.48	6.6
Aberdeen	4.55	3.8	5.09	3.8
Avonmouth	10.49	11.9	10.59	11.7
Belfast	2.38	3.1	2.54	3.1
Cardiff	10.38	11.1	10.44	10.8
Devonport	9.01	5.0	9.14	5.0
Dover	2.09	6.2	2.30	6.0
Falmouth	8.31	4.8	8.44	4.6
Glasgow	4.27	4.7	4.51	4.6
Harwich	3.16	3.9	3.43	3.7
Holyhead	11.45	5.1	2.04	5.1
Hull	9.57	6.7	10.15	6.7
Ilfracombe	9.34	8.3	9.46	8.2
Leith	6.18	5.0	6.32	5.1
Liverpool	2.35	8.8	2.57	8.7
Lowestoft	12.57	2.3	1.24	2.2
Margate	3.22	4.6	3.47	4.5
Milford Haven	9.50	6.4	10.04	6.3
Newquay	8.42	6.5	8.57	6.3
Oban	9.14	3.6	9.18	3.5
Penzance	8.04	5.1	8.18	5.1
Portland	10.24	1.8	10.38	1.7
Portsmouth	2.57	4.3	3.19	4.2
Shoreham	2.26	5.8	2.46	5.7
Southampton	2.20	4.3	2.40	4.2
Swansea	9.54	8.8	10.05	8.7
Tees	7.18	4.9	7.35	4.9
Walton-on-Naze	3.11	4.1	3.33	4.0

Tide measurement in metres: 1m=3.2808ft.

Around Britain

	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F			Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Scarboro	–	–	6	43	Cloudy	Guernsey	9.4	–	10	50	Sunny
Bridlington	0.3	–	6	43	Cloudy	Scilly Isles	1.9	–	–	–	Sunny pm
Cromer	1.3	.04	5	41	Drizzle	Newquay	–	–	10	50	Dull
Lowestoft	0.5	.12	5	41	Showers	Ilfracombe	3.2	–	9	48	Sunny
Clacton	0.7	.06	6	43	Rain pm	Tenby	1.6	–	9	48	Cloudy
Margate	0.4	.14	5	41	Rain pm	Southport	10.0	–	10	50	Sunny
Folkestone	1.7	.05	8	46	Rain pm	Morecambe	10.3	–	8	46	Sunny
Hastings	1.0	–	7	45	Cloudy	Douglas	–	–	8	46	Cloudy
Eastbourne	–	–	–	–	–	London (Ctrl)	0.2	–	8	46	Cloudy
Brighton	–	–	6	43	Bright	B'ham (Airpt)	8.8	–	11	52	Sunny
Worthing	3.9	–	8	46	Sunny am	Bristol (Ctrl)	9.9	–	12	54	Sunny
Littlehmptn	–	–	–	–	–	Cardiff (Ctrl)	8.9	–	10	50	Sunny
Bognor R	5.5	–	9	48	Sunny am	Anglesey	0.1	–	10	50	Bright
Southsea	–	–	–	–	–	B'pool (Airpt)	10.4	–	9	48	Sunny
Shanklin	7.7	–	9	48	Sunny	Manchester	9.3	–	12	54	Bright pm
Bournemouth	9.8	–	11	52	Sunny	Nottingham	9.0	–	9	48	Sunny
Poole	9.8	.01	11	52	Sunny	N'cstl-n-Tyne	9.2	–	9	48	Sunny
Swanage	9.4	.01	9	48	Sunny	Carlisle	8.5	–	11	52	Sunny
Weymouth	8.8	–	12	54	Sunny	Eskdalemuir	6.3	–	10	50	Sunny am
Exmouth	6.4	.01	11	52	Sunny	Prestwick	–	–	10	50	Cloudy
Torquay	6.1	.02	11	52	Bright	Glasgow	0.4	–	11	52	Cloudy

Abroad

MIDDAY: c, cloud; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun; sn, snow; sl, sleet.

		C	F			C	F			C	F			C	F
Ajaccio	r	12	54	Copenhgn	f	3	37	Majorca	f	15	59	Rio de Jan*	f	29	84
Akrotiri	f	21	70	Corfu	s	17	63	Malaga	c	15	59	Rome	r	11	52
Alexandria	–	–	–	Dallas	–	–	–	Malta	f	17	63	Salzburg	s	10	50
Algiers	f	19	66	Dublin	c	8	46	Melbourne	s	18	64	Sao Paulo*	r	18	64
Amsterdam	s	7	45	Dubrovnik	c	14	57	Mexico C	–	–	–	S Francisco*	f	14	57
Athens	c	10	50	Faro	s	20	68	Miami*	r	25	77	Santiago	–	–	–
Bahrain	c	29	84	Florence	c	12	5	Milan	r	7	45	Seoul*	c	20	68
Barbados*	f	28	82	Frankfurt	f	5	41	Montreal*	s	13	55	Singapore	f	32	90
Barcelona	s	14	57	Funchal	f	19	66	Moscow	s	11	52	Stockholm	f	0	32
Beirut	f	23	73	Geneva	f	9	48	Munich	s	7	45	Strasbourg	c	5	41
Belgrade	s	10	50	Gibraltar	r	12	54	Nairobi	–	–	–	Sydney	s	24	75
Berlin	s	5	41	Helsinki	s	8	46	Naples	c	13	55	Tangier	s	16	61
Bermuda	–	–	–	Hongkong	r	25	77	New Delhi	s	31	88	Tel Aviv	s	27	81
Biarritz	c	11	52	Innsbruck	s	10	50	New York*	r	6	43	Tenerife	s	23	73
Boulogne	c	5	41	Istanbul	s	14	57	Nice	f	13	55	Tokyo	c	14	57
Bordeaux	r	8	46	Jiddah	s	33	91	Oslo	s	2	36	Toronto*	f	10	50
Brussels	s	9	48	Jo'burg	c	22	72	Ottawa	–	–	–	Tunis	c	11	52
Budapest	f	9	48	Karachi	s	30	86	Paris	s	11	52	Valencia	s	21	70
Buen Aires*	c	18	64	Las Palmas	f	20	68	Peking*	c	15	59	Vancouver*	f	9	48
Cairo	s	33	91	Lisbon	c	13	55	Perth	s	28	82	Venice	s	10	50
Cape Tn	s	25	79	Locarno	f	4	39	Prague	f	7	45	Vienna	s	6	43
C'blanca	s	18	64	L Angeles*	c	15	59	Reykjavik	sl	2	36	Warsaw*	f	13	55
Chicago	–	–	–	Luxembg	s	8	46	Rhodes	s	20	68	Washington*	f	9	48
Cologne	s	10	50	Madrid	r	9	48	Riyadh	s	33	91	Zurich	sl	3	37

* denotes Wednesday's figures are latest available

